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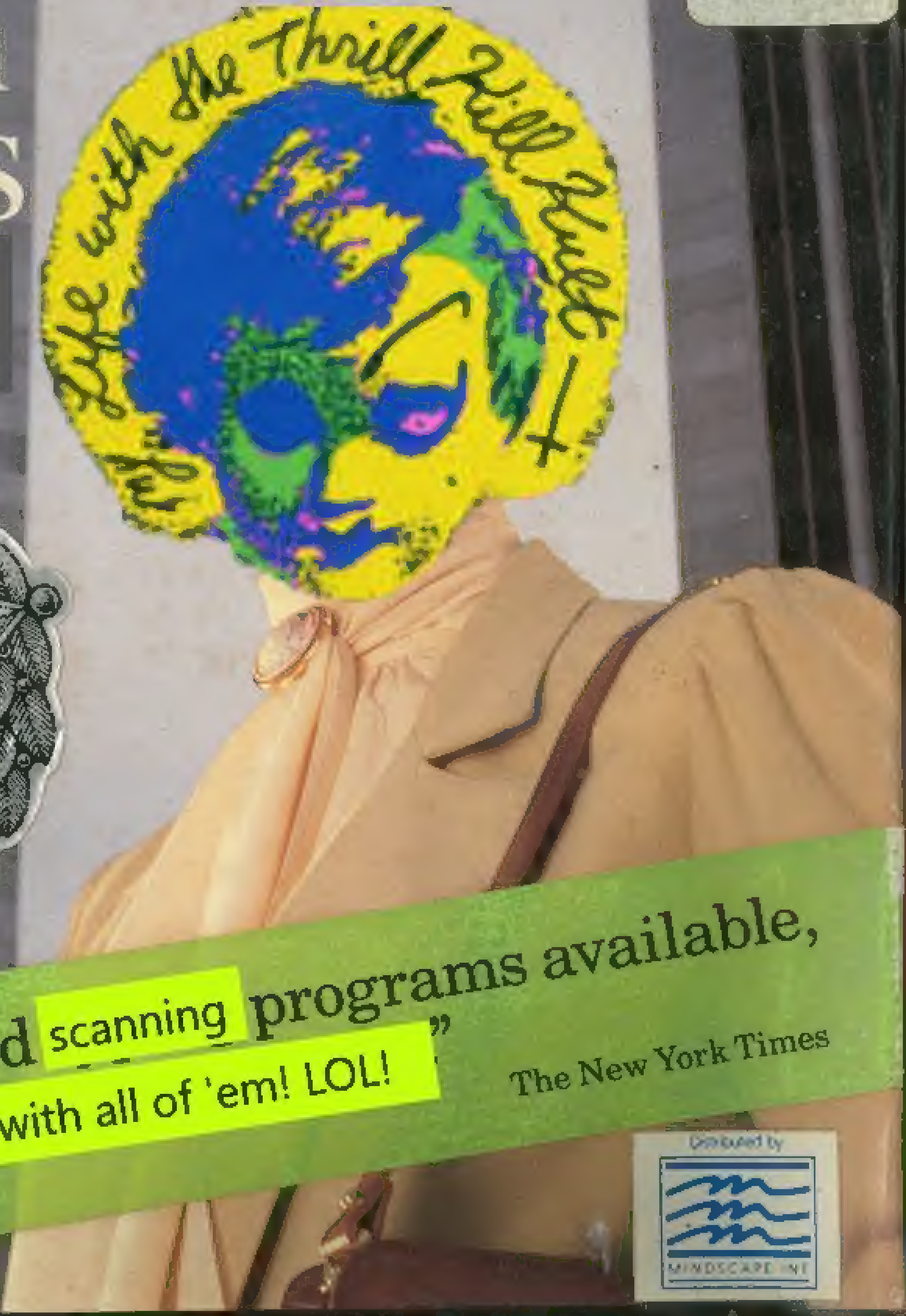
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THE SOFTWARE TOOLWORKS

A QUARTERLY COLLISION OF PONDERING, PANDERING AND ARRESTED DEVELOPMENT

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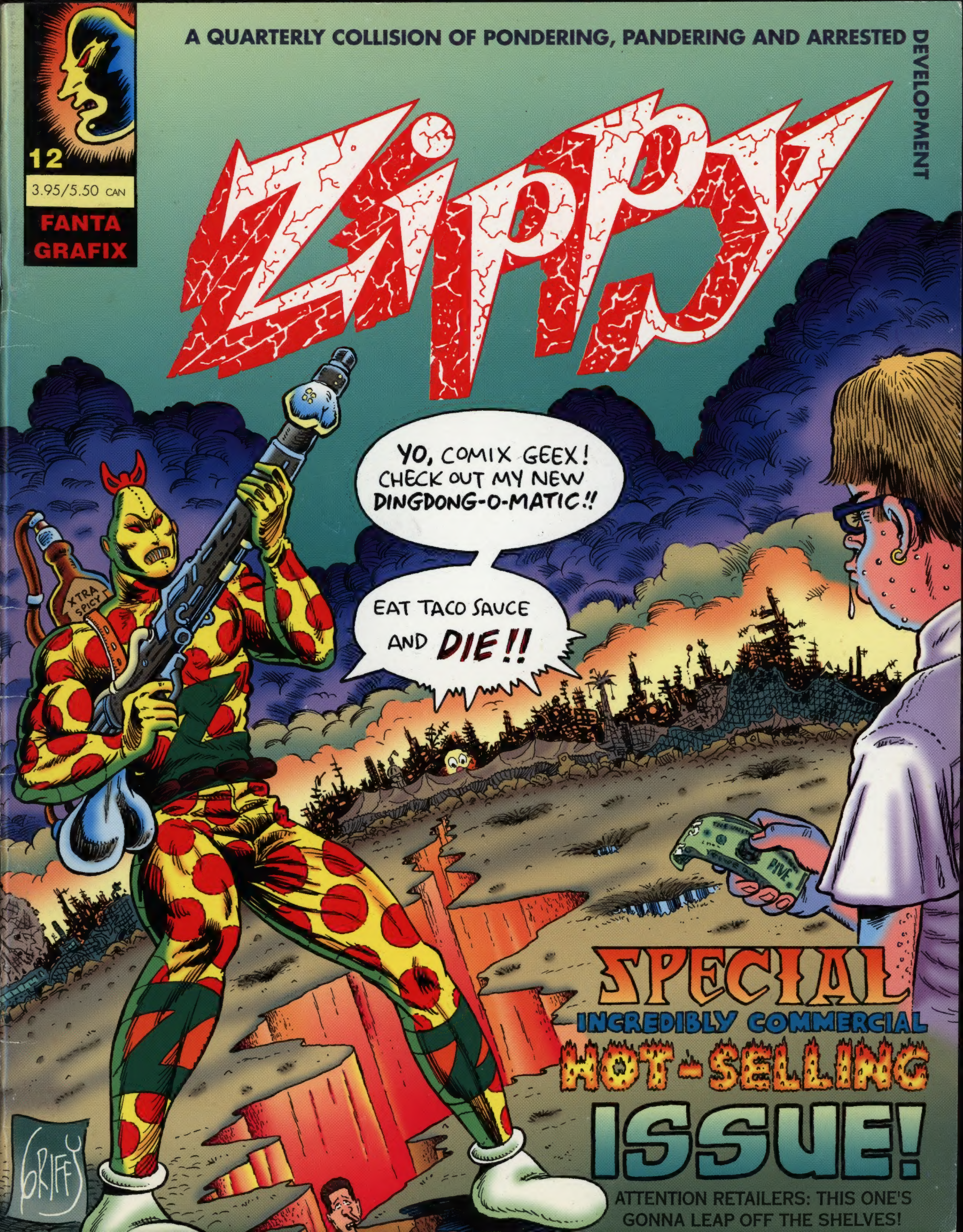
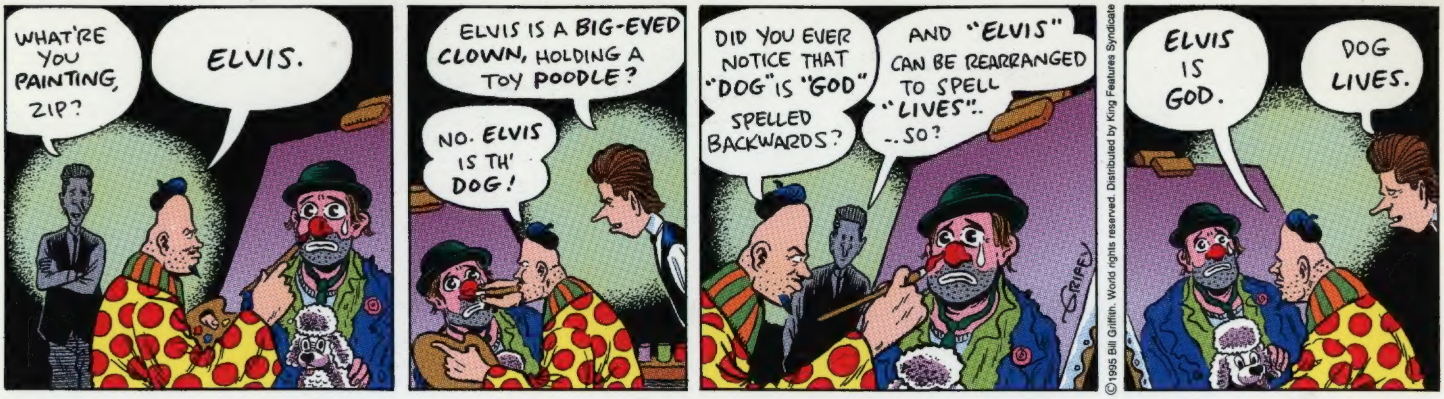
FANTA GRAFIX

ZIPPY


YO, COMIX GEEX! CHECK OUT MY NEW DINGDONG-O-MATIC!!
EAT TACO SAUCE AND DIE!!
XTRA SPICY
FIVE
SPECIAL
INCREDIBLY COMMERCIAL
HOT-SELLING
ISSUE!
GRIFFY

ATTENTION RETAILERS: THIS ONE'S GONNA LEAP OFF THE SHELVES!


WHAT'RE YOU PAINTING, ZIP?
ELVIS.
ELVIS IS A BIG-EYED CLOWN, HOLDING A TOY POODLE?
NO. ELVIS IS TH' DOG!
DID YOU EVER NOTICE THAT "DOG" IS "GOD" SPELLED BACKWARDS?
AND "ELVIS" CAN BE REARRANGED TO SPELL "LIVES".. ..SO?
GRIFFY
ELVIS IS GOD.
DOG LIVES.
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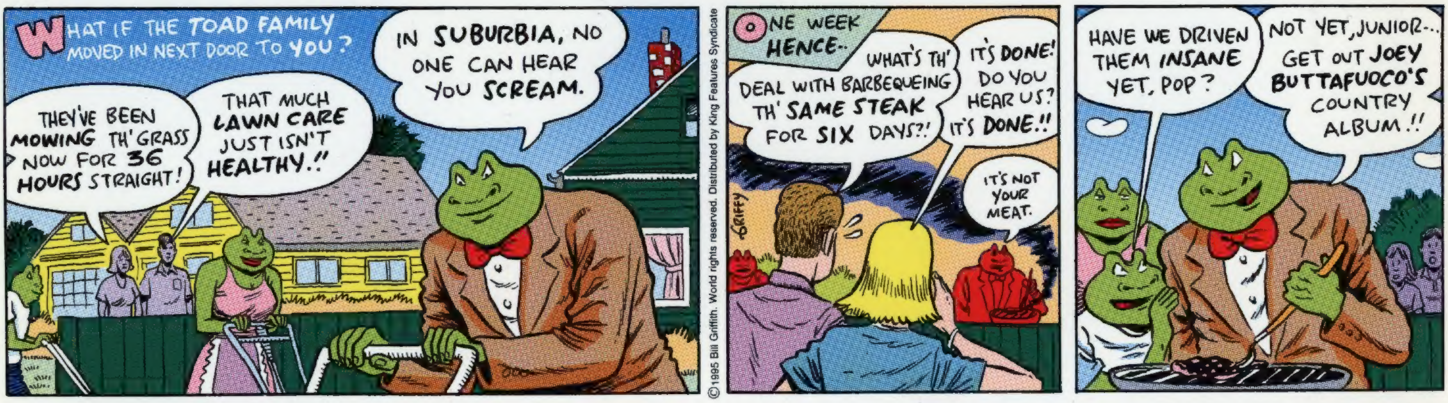
WHAT IF THE TOAD FAMILY MOVED IN NEXT DOOR TO YOU?
THEY'VE BEEN MOWING TH' GRASS NOW FOR 36 HOURS STRAIGHT!
THAT MUCH LAWN CARE JUST ISN'T HEALTHY.!
IN SUBURBIA, NO ONE CAN HEAR YOU SCREAM.
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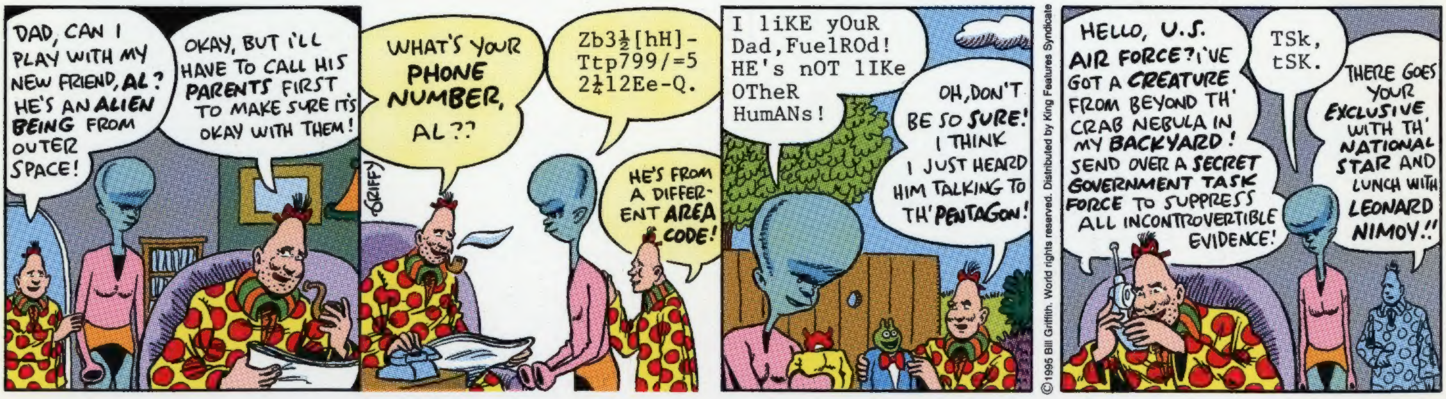
ONE WEEK HENCE..
WHAT'S TH' DEAL WITH BARBEQUEING TH' SAME STEAK FOR SIX DAYS?!
IT'S DONE! DO YOU HEAR US? IT'S DONE.!!
IT'S NOT YOUR MEAT.
GRIFFY
HAVE WE DRIVEN THEM INSANE YET, POP?
NOT YET, JUNIOR.. GET OUT JOEY BUTTAFUOCO'S COUNTRY ALBUM.!!


DAD, CAN I PLAY WITH MY NEW FRIEND, AL? HE'S AN ALIEN BEING FROM OUTER SPACE!
OKAY, BUT I'LL HAVE TO CALL HIS PARENTS FIRST TO MAKE SURE IT'S OKAY WITH THEM!
GRIFFY
WHAT'S YOUR PHONE NUMBER, AL??
Zb3½[hH]-Ttp799/=5 2¼12Ee-Q.
HE'S FROM A DIFFERENT AREA CODE!
I liKE yOuR Dad, FuelROd! HE's nOT lIKe OTheR HumANs!
OH, DON'T BE SO SURE! I THINK I JUST HEARD HIM TALKING TO TH' PENTAGON!
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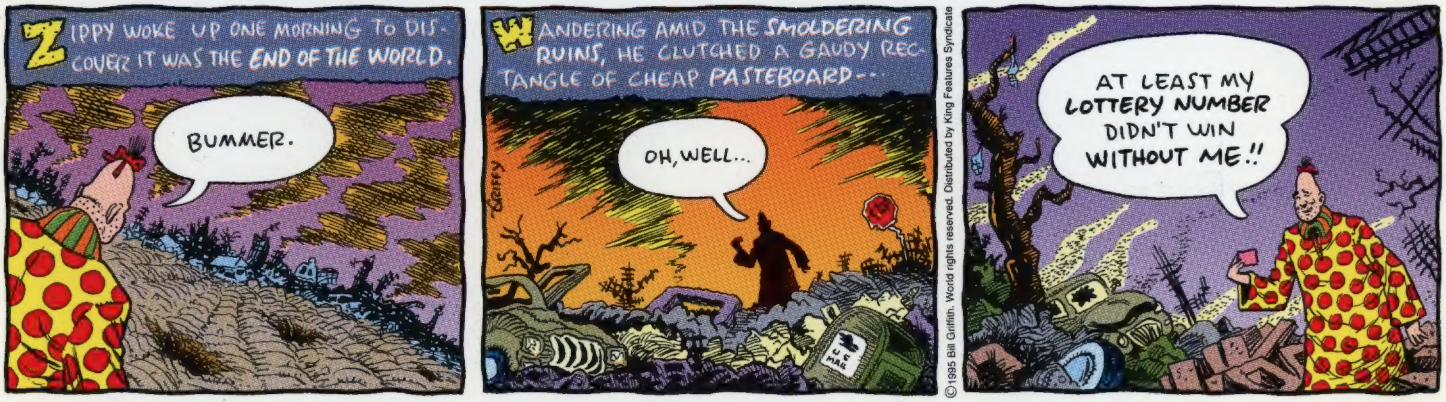
HELLO, U.S. AIR FORCE? I'VE GOT A CREATURE FROM BEYOND TH' CRAB NEBULA IN MY BACKYARD! SEND OVER A SECRET GOVERNMENT TASK FORCE TO SUPPRESS ALL INCONTROVERTIBLE EVIDENCE!
TSk, tSK.
THERE GOES YOUR EXCLUSIVE WITH TH' NATIONAL STAR AND LUNCH WITH LEONARD NIMOY.!!


ZIPPY WOKE UP ONE MORNING TO DISCOVER IT WAS THE END OF THE WORLD.
BUMMER.
WANDERING AMID THE SMOLDERING RUINS, HE CLUTCHED A GAUDY RECTANGLE OF CHEAP PASTEBOARD--
OH, WELL...
GRIFFY
U.S. MAIL
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AT LEAST MY LOTTERY NUMBER DIDN'T WIN WITHOUT ME.!!

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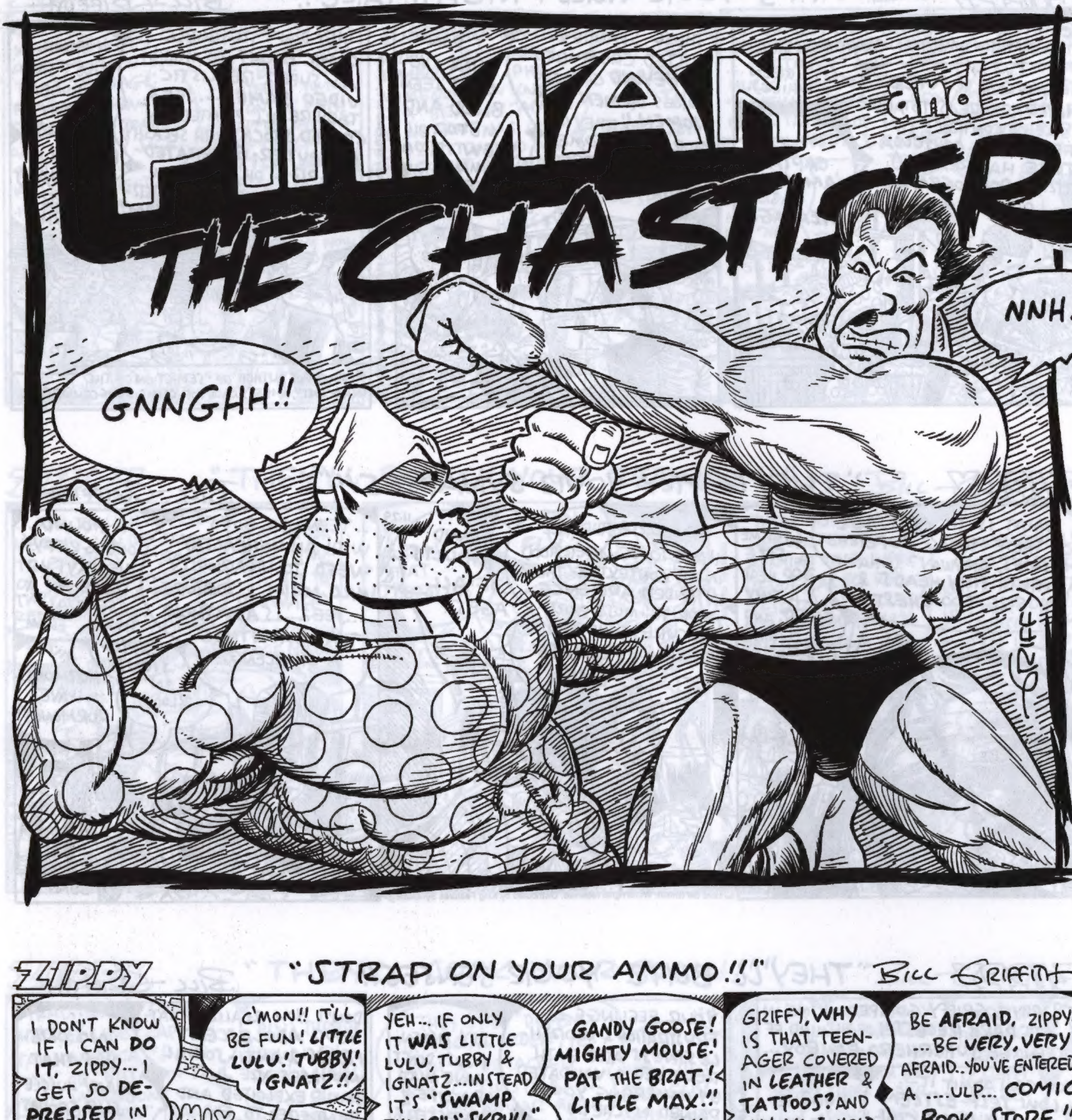
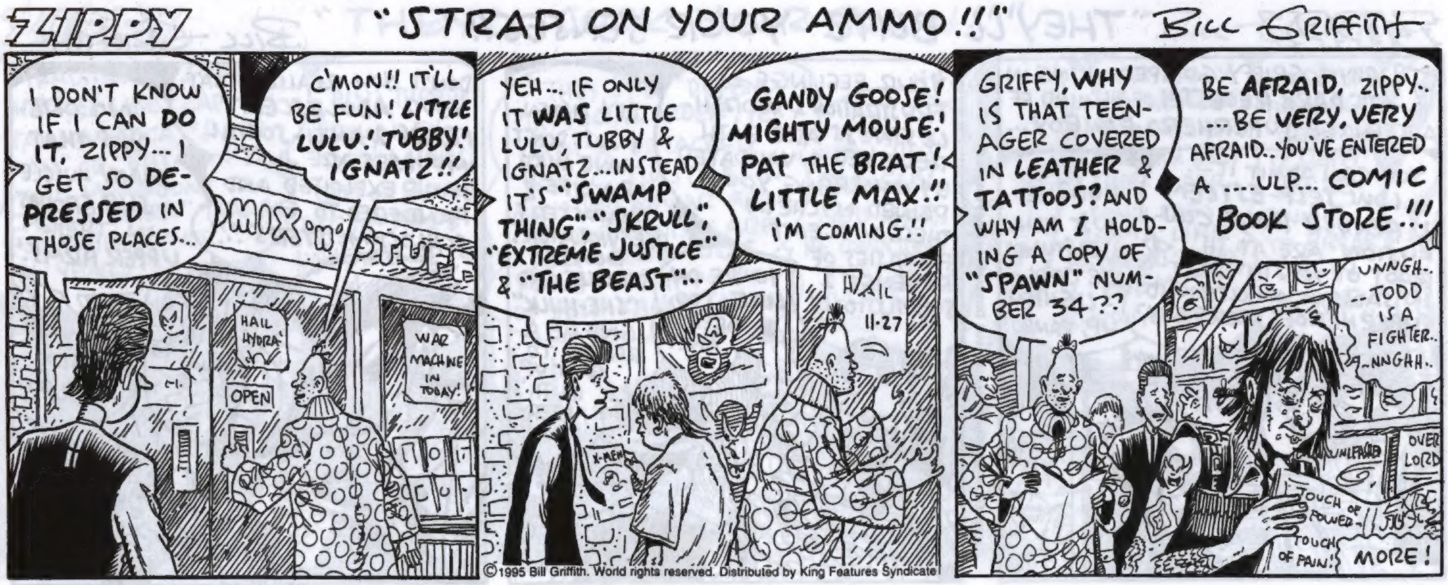

PINMAN and
THE CHASTI-ER
NNH!!
GNNGHH!!
GRIFFY


ZIPPY
"STRAP ON YOUR AMMO!!"
BILL GRIFFITH
I DON'T KNOW IF I CAN DO IT, ZIPPY... I GET SO DEPRESSED IN THOSE PLACES...
C'MON!! IT'LL BE FUN! LITTLE LULU! TUBBY! IGNATZ!!
COMIX 'N' STUFF
HAIL HYDRA
OPEN
WAR MACHINE IN TODAY!
YEH... IF ONLY IT WAS LITTLE LULU, TUBBY & IGNATZ... INSTEAD IT'S "SWAMP THING", "SKRULL", "EXTREME JUSTICE" & "THE BEAST"...
GANDY GOOSE! MIGHTY MOUSE! PAT THE BRAT! LITTLE MAX.!! I'M COMING!!
HAIL
11-27
X-MEN
GRIFFY, WHY IS THAT TEEN-AGER COVERED IN LEATHER & TATTOOS? AND WHY AM I HOLDING A COPY OF "SPAWN" NUMBER 34??
BE AFRAID, ZIPPY.. ...BE VERY, VERY AFRAID.. YOU'VE ENTERED A .....ULP... COMIC BOOK STORE!!!
UNNGH.. ..TODD IS A FIGHTER.. ..NNGHH..
UNLEASHED
OVER LORD
TOUCH OF POWER
TOUCH OF PAIN!
MORE!

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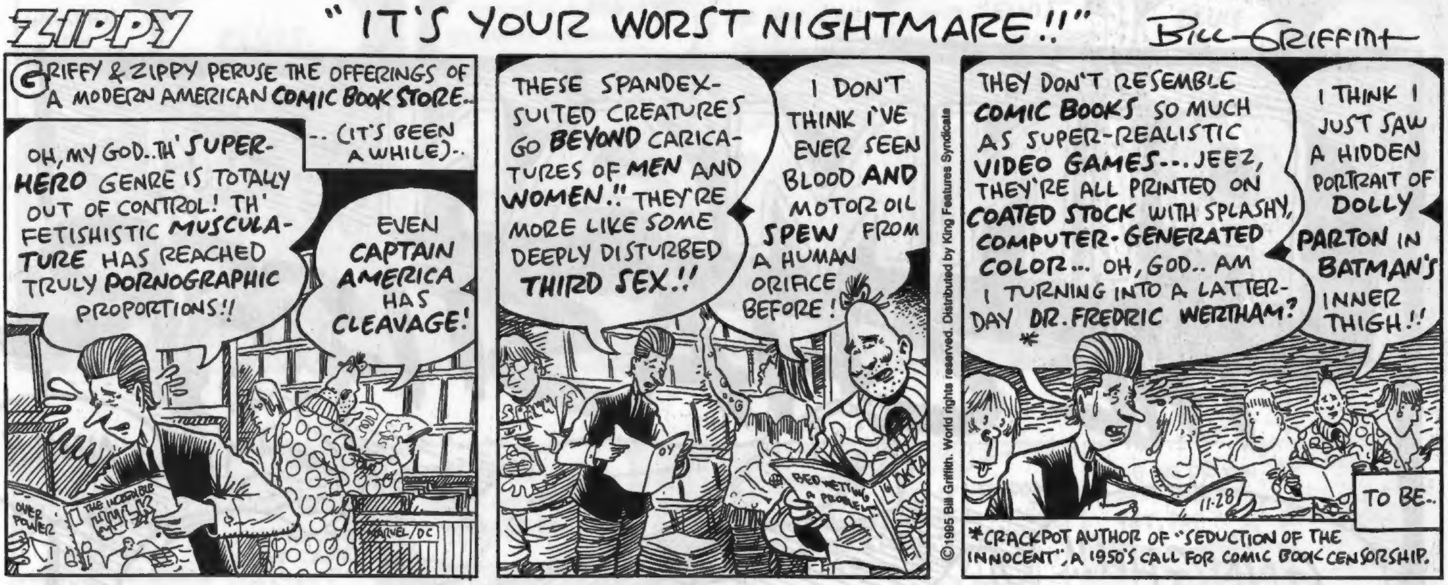
ZIPPY
"IT'S YOUR WORST NIGHTMARE!!"
BILL GRIFFITH
GRIFFY & ZIPPY PERUSE THE OFFERINGS OF A MODERN AMERICAN COMIC BOOK STORE..
..(IT'S BEEN A WHILE)..
OH, MY GOD.. TH' SUPER-HERO GENRE IS TOTALLY OUT OF CONTROL! TH' FETISHISTIC MUSCULATURE HAS REACHED TRULY PORNOGRAPHIC PROPORTIONS!!
EVEN CAPTAIN AMERICA HAS CLEAVAGE!
OVER POWER
THE INCREDIBLE HULK
MARVEL/DC
THESE SPANDEX-SUITED CREATURES GO BEYOND CARICATURES OF MEN AND WOMEN!! THEY'RE MORE LIKE SOME DEEPLY DISTURBED THIRD SEX!!
I DON'T THINK I'VE EVER SEEN BLOOD AND MOTOR OIL SPEW FROM A HUMAN ORIFICE BEFORE!
BED WETTING A PROBLEM
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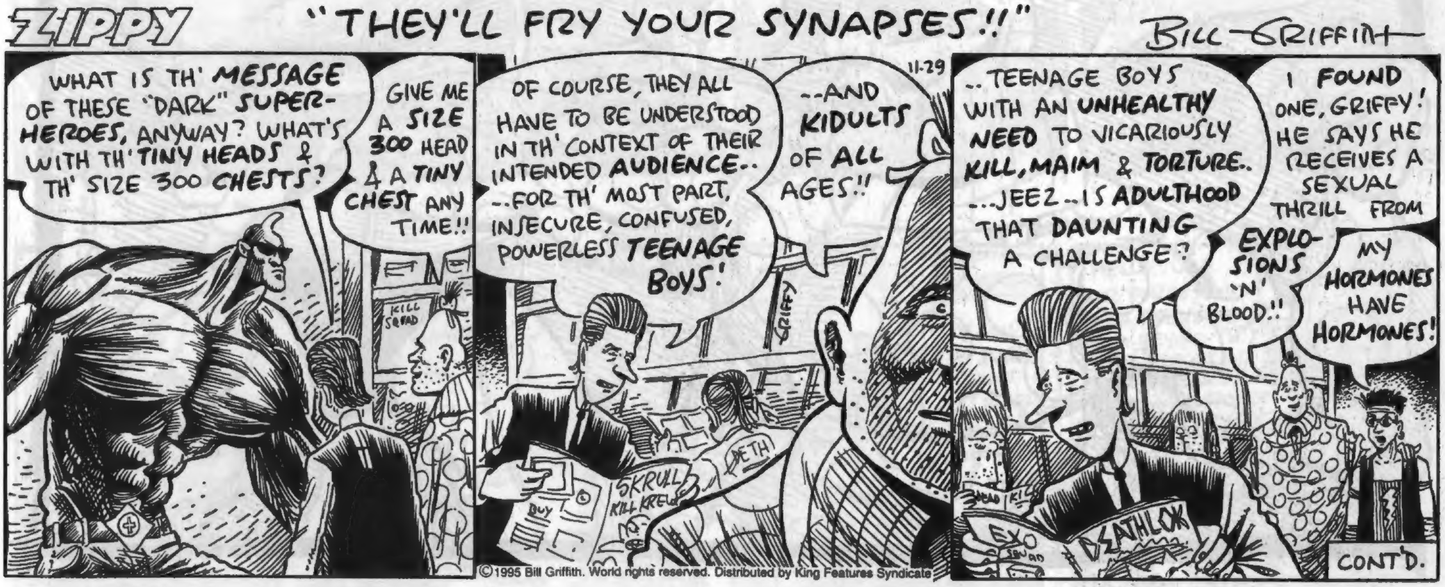
THEY DON'T RESEMBLE COMIC BOOKS SO MUCH AS SUPER-REALISTIC VIDEO GAMES--- JEEZ, THEY'RE ALL PRINTED ON COATED STOCK WITH SPLASHY, COMPUTER-GENERATED COLOR... OH, GOD.. AM I TURNING INTO A LATTER-DAY DR. FREDRIC WERTHAM? *
I THINK I JUST SAW A HIDDEN PORTRAIT OF DOLLY PARTON IN BATMAN'S INNER THIGH!!
11-28
TO BE..
*CRACKPOT AUTHOR OF "SEDUCTION OF THE INNOCENT", A 1950'S CALL FOR COMIC BOOK CENSORSHIP.


ZIPPY
"THEY'LL FRY YOUR SYNAPSES!!"
BILL GRIFFITH
WHAT IS TH' MESSAGE OF THESE "DARK" SUPER-HEROES, ANYWAY? WHAT'S WITH TH' TINY HEADS & TH' SIZE 300 CHESTS?
GIVE ME A SIZE 300 HEAD & A TINY CHEST ANY TIME!!
KILL SQUAD
OF COURSE, THEY ALL HAVE TO BE UNDERSTOOD IN TH' CONTEXT OF THEIR INTENDED AUDIENCE.. ..FOR TH' MOST PART, INSECURE, CONFUSED, POWERLESS TEENAGE BOYS!
--AND KIDULTS OF ALL AGES!!
11-29
GRIFFY
SKRULL KILL KREW
DETH
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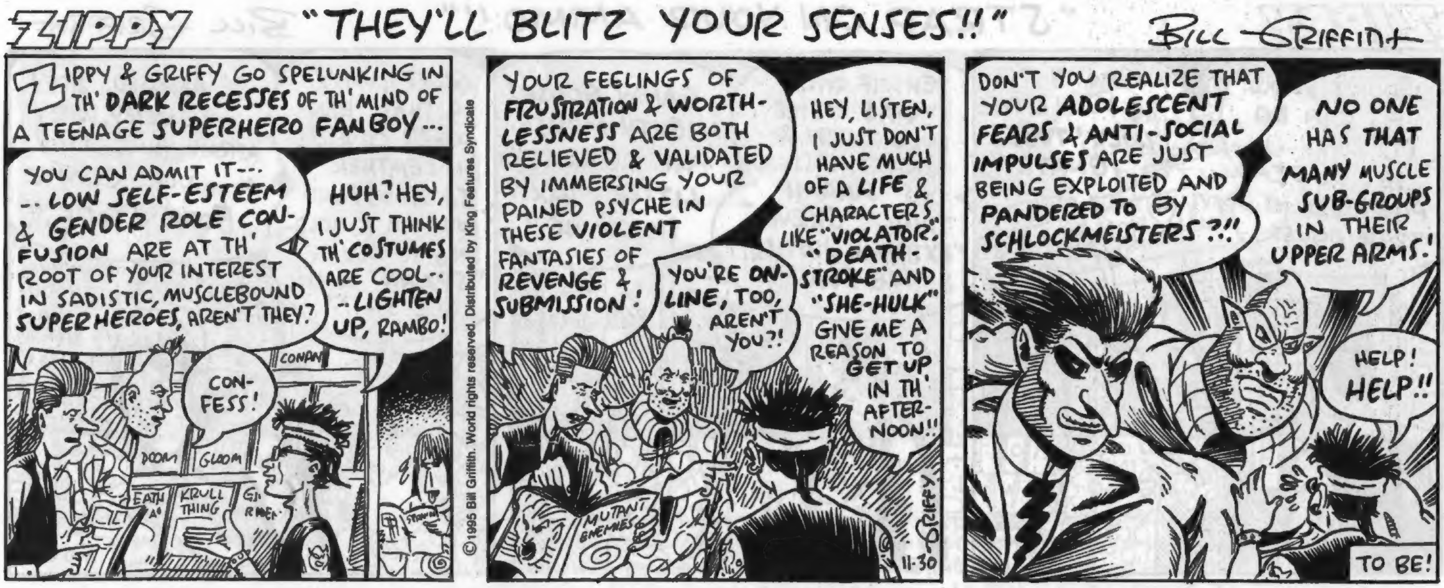
..TEENAGE BOYS WITH AN UNHEALTHY NEED TO VICARIOUSLY KILL, MAIM & TORTURE.. ..JEEZ.. IS ADULTHOOD THAT DAUNTING A CHALLENGE?
I FOUND ONE, GRIFFY! HE SAYS HE RECEIVES A SEXUAL THRILL FROM EXPLOSIONS 'N' BLOOD!!
MY HORMONES HAVE HORMONES!
EXO SQUAD
DEATHLOK
CONT'D.


ZIPPY
"THEY'LL BLITZ YOUR SENSES!!"
BILL GRIFFITH
ZIPPY & GRIFFY GO SPELUNKING IN TH' DARK RECESSES OF TH' MIND OF A TEENAGE SUPERHERO FANBOY...
YOU CAN ADMIT IT--- ..LOW SELF-ESTEEM & GENDER ROLE CONFUSION ARE AT TH' ROOT OF YOUR INTEREST IN SADISTIC, MUSCLEBOUND SUPERHEROES, AREN'T THEY?
HUH? HEY, I JUST THINK TH' COSTUMES ARE COOL-- ..LIGHTEN UP, RAMBO!
CONFESS!
CONAN
DOOM
GLOOM
KRULL THING
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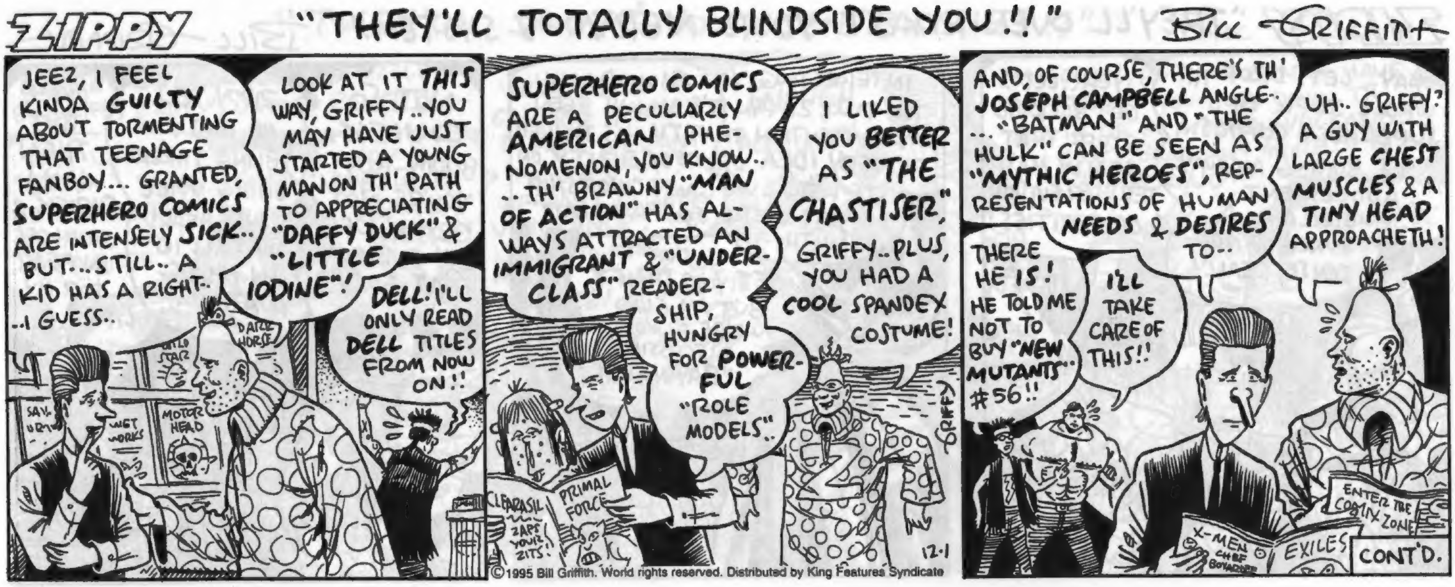
YOUR FEELINGS OF FRUSTRATION & WORTHLESSNESS ARE BOTH RELIEVED & VALIDATED BY IMMERSING YOUR PAINED PSYCHE IN THESE VIOLENT FANTASIES OF REVENGE & SUBMISSION!
YOU'RE ON-LINE, TOO, AREN'T YOU?!
HEY, LISTEN, I JUST DON'T HAVE MUCH OF A LIFE & CHARACTERS LIKE "VIOLATOR", "DEATH-STROKE" AND "SHE-HULK" GIVE ME A REASON TO GET UP IN TH' AFTERNOON!!
MUTANT ENEMIES
GRIFFY
11-30
DON'T YOU REALIZE THAT YOUR ADOLESCENT FEARS & ANTI-SOCIAL IMPULSES ARE JUST BEING EXPLOITED AND PANDERED TO BY SCHLOCKMEISTERS?!!
NO ONE HAS THAT MANY MUSCLE SUB-GROUPS IN THEIR UPPER ARMS!
HELP! HELP!!
TO BE!


ZIPPY
"THEY'LL TOTALLY BLINDSIDE YOU!!"
BILL GRIFFITH
JEEZ, I FEEL KINDA GUILTY ABOUT TORMENTING THAT TEENAGE FANBOY... GRANTED, SUPERHERO COMICS ARE INTENSELY SICK.. BUT...STILL.. A KID HAS A RIGHT.. ..I GUESS..
LOOK AT IT THIS WAY, GRIFFY..YOU MAY HAVE JUST STARTED A YOUNG MAN ON TH' PATH TO APPRECIATING "DAFFY DUCK" & "LITTLE IODINE"!
DELL! I'LL ONLY READ DELL TITLES FROM NOW ON!!
DARK HORSE
WILD STAR
SAV-URY
WET WORKS
MOTOR HEAD
SUPERHERO COMICS ARE A PECULIARLY AMERICAN PHENOMENON, YOU KNOW.. ..TH' BRAWNY "MAN OF ACTION" HAS ALWAYS ATTRACTED AN IMMIGRANT & "UNDERCLASS" READERSHIP, HUNGRY FOR POWERFUL "ROLE MODELS"..
I LIKED YOU BETTER AS "THE CHASTISER", GRIFFY.. PLUS, YOU HAD A COOL SPANDEX COSTUME!
CLEARASIL ZAPS YOUR ZITS!
PRIMAL FORCE
GRIFFY
12-1
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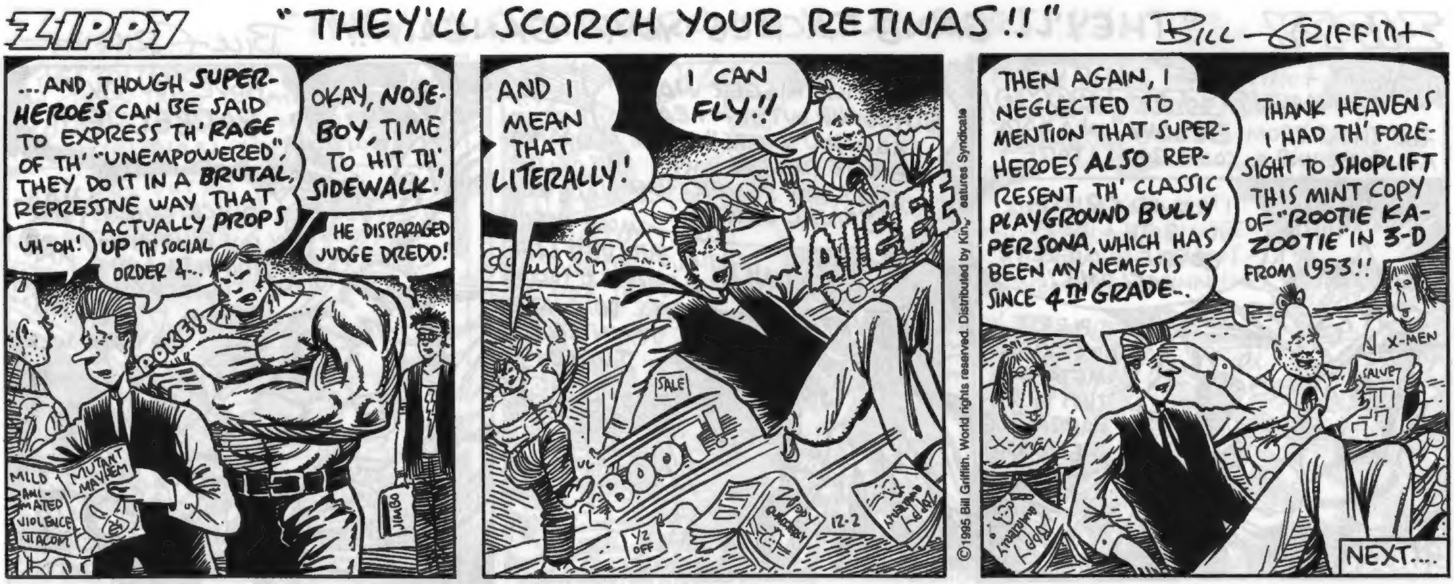
AND, OF COURSE, THERE'S TH' JOSEPH CAMPBELL ANGLE.. ..."BATMAN" AND "THE HULK" CAN BE SEEN AS "MYTHIC HEROES", REPRESENTATIONS OF HUMAN NEEDS & DESIRES TO--
UH.. GRIFFY? A GUY WITH LARGE CHEST MUSCLES & A TINY HEAD APPROACHETH!
THERE HE IS! HE TOLD ME NOT TO BUY "NEW MUTANTS" #56!!
I'LL TAKE CARE OF THIS!!
X-MEN
CHEF BOYARDEE
ENTER THE COMIX ZONE
EXILES
CONT'D.


ZIPPY
"THEY'LL SCORCH YOUR RETINAS!!"
BILL GRIFFITH
...AND, THOUGH SUPERHEROES CAN BE SAID TO EXPRESS TH' RAGE OF TH' "UNEMPOWERED", THEY DO IT IN A BRUTAL, REPRESSIVE WAY THAT ACTUALLY PROPS UP TH' SOCIAL ORDER &...
OKAY, NOSE-BOY, TIME TO HIT TH' SIDEWALK.
UH-OH!
HE DISPARAGED JUDGE DREDD!
POKE!
MILD ANIMATED VIOLENCE
MUTANT MAYHEM
JIMBO
AND I MEAN THAT LITERALLY!
I CAN FLY!!
COMIX
AIEEE
SALE
BOOT!
1/2 OFF
ZIPPY QUARTERLY
12-2
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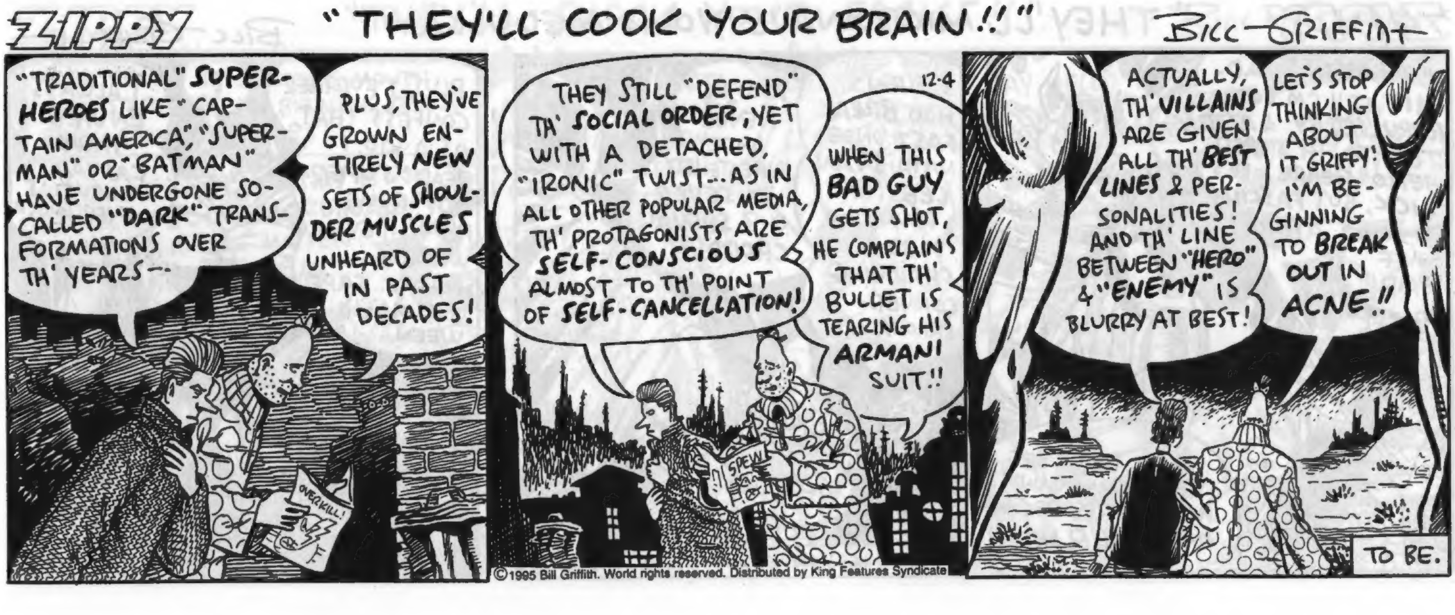
THEN AGAIN, I NEGLECTED TO MENTION THAT SUPERHEROES ALSO REPRESENT TH' CLASSIC PLAYGROUND BULLY PERSONA, WHICH HAS BEEN MY NEMESIS SINCE 4TH GRADE..
THANK HEAVENS I HAD TH' FORESIGHT TO SHOPLIFT THIS MINT COPY OF "ROOTIE KAZOOTIE" IN 3-D FROM 1953!!
X-MEN
X-MEN
NEXT....


ZIPPY
"THEY'LL COOK YOUR BRAIN!!"
BILL GRIFFITH
"TRADITIONAL" SUPERHEROES LIKE "CAPTAIN AMERICA", "SUPERMAN" OR "BATMAN" HAVE UNDERGONE SO-CALLED "DARK" TRANSFORMATIONS OVER TH' YEARS--
PLUS, THEY'VE GROWN ENTIRELY NEW SETS OF SHOULDER MUSCLES UNHEARD OF IN PAST DECADES!
OVERKILL!
THEY STILL "DEFEND" TH' SOCIAL ORDER, YET WITH A DETACHED, "IRONIC" TWIST--AS IN ALL OTHER POPULAR MEDIA, TH' PROTAGONISTS ARE SELF-CONSCIOUS ALMOST TO TH' POINT OF SELF-CANCELLATION!
WHEN THIS BAD GUY GETS SHOT, HE COMPLAINS THAT TH' BULLET IS TEARING HIS ARMANI SUIT!!
12-4
SPEW
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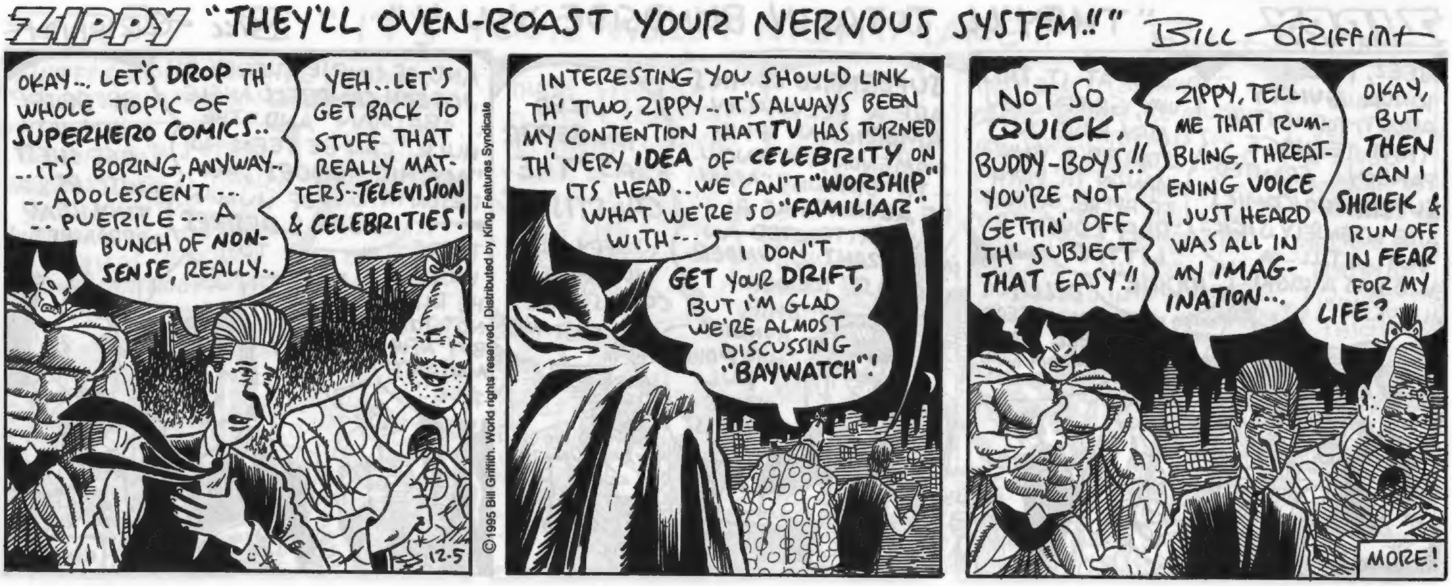
ACTUALLY, TH' VILLAINS ARE GIVEN ALL TH' BEST LINES & PERSONALITIES! AND TH' LINE BETWEEN "HERO" & "ENEMY" IS BLURRY AT BEST!
LET'S STOP THINKING ABOUT IT, GRIFFY! I'M BEGINNING TO BREAK OUT IN ACNE!!
TO BE.


ZIPPY "THEY'LL OVEN-ROAST YOUR NERVOUS SYSTEM!!" BILL GRIFFITH
OKAY... LET'S DROP TH' WHOLE TOPIC OF SUPERHERO COMICS.. ..IT'S BORING, ANYWAY.. ..ADOLESCENT.. ..PUERILE.. A BUNCH OF NONSENSE, REALLY..
YEH..LET'S GET BACK TO STUFF THAT REALLY MATTERS..TELEVISION & CELEBRITIES!
12-5
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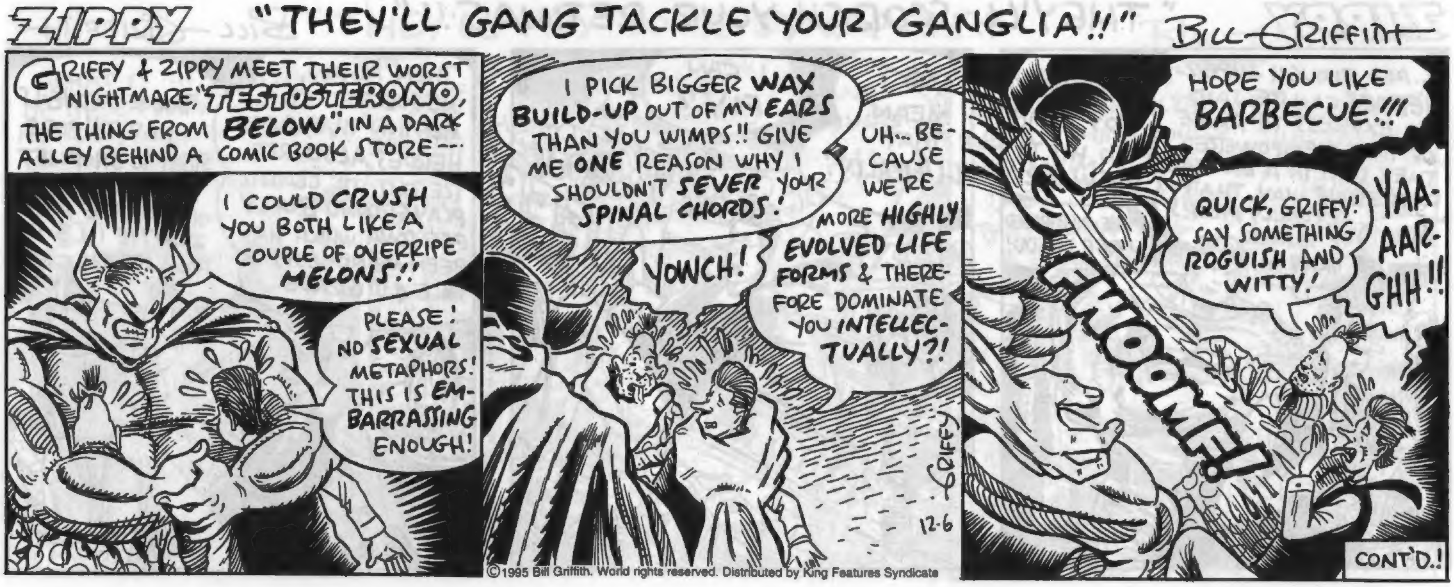
INTERESTING YOU SHOULD LINK TH' TWO, ZIPPY.. IT'S ALWAYS BEEN MY CONTENTION THAT TV HAS TURNED TH' VERY IDEA OF CELEBRITY ON ITS HEAD.. WE CAN'T "WORSHIP" WHAT WE'RE SO "FAMILIAR" WITH...
I DON'T GET YOUR DRIFT, BUT I'M GLAD WE'RE ALMOST DISCUSSING "BAYWATCH"!
NOT SO QUICK, BUDDY-BOYS!! YOU'RE NOT GETTIN' OFF TH' SUBJECT THAT EASY!!
ZIPPY, TELL ME THAT RUMBLING, THREATENING VOICE I JUST HEARD WAS ALL IN MY IMAGINATION...
OKAY, BUT THEN CAN I SHRIEK & RUN OFF IN FEAR FOR MY LIFE?
MORE!


ZIPPY "THEY'LL GANG TACKLE YOUR GANGLIA!!" BILL GRIFFITH
GRIFFY & ZIPPY MEET THEIR WORST NIGHTMARE, "TESTOSTERONO, THE THING FROM BELOW", IN A DARK ALLEY BEHIND A COMIC BOOK STORE...
I COULD CRUSH YOU BOTH LIKE A COUPLE OF OVERRIPE MELONS!!
PLEASE! NO SEXUAL METAPHORS! THIS IS EMBARRASSING ENOUGH!
I PICK BIGGER WAX BUILD-UP OUT OF MY EARS THAN YOU WIMPS!! GIVE ME ONE REASON WHY I SHOULDN'T SEVER YOUR SPINAL CHORDS!
YOWCH!
UH.. BECAUSE WE'RE MORE HIGHLY EVOLVED LIFE FORMS & THEREFORE DOMINATE YOU INTELLECTUALLY?!
GRIFFY
12-6
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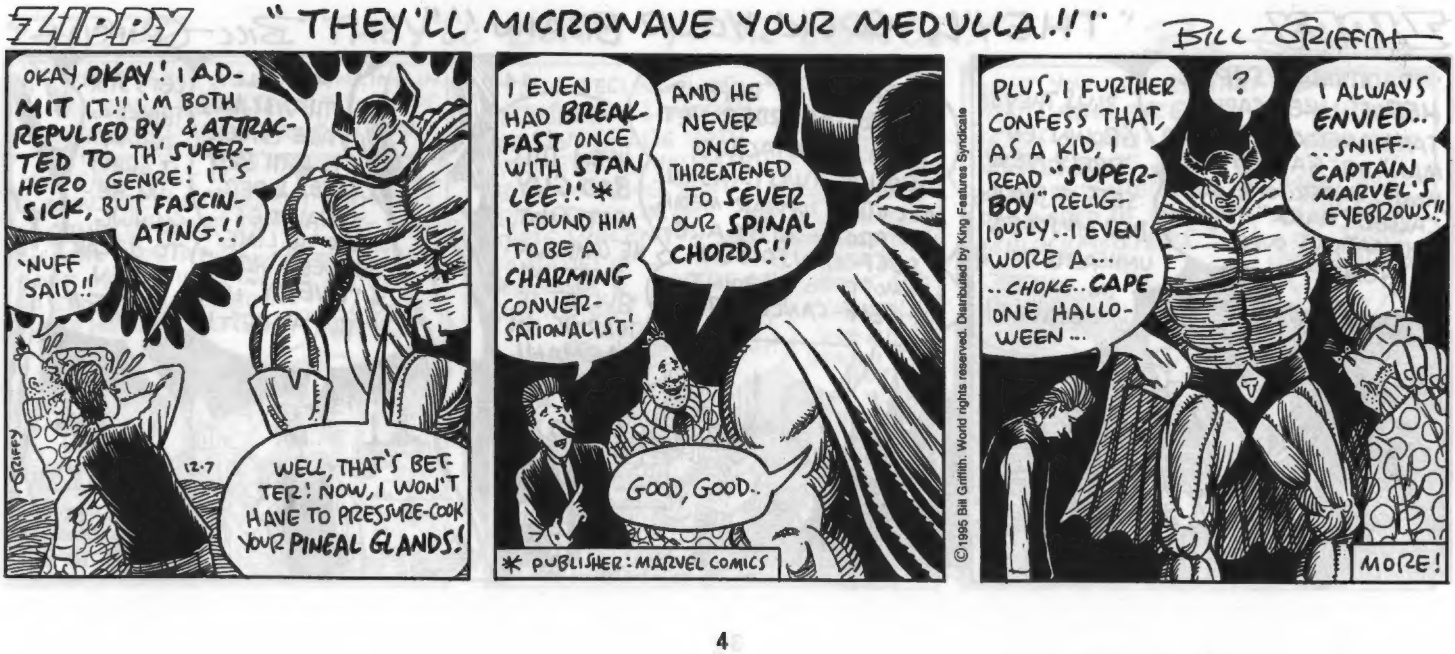
HOPE YOU LIKE BARBECUE!!!
FWOOMF!
QUICK, GRIFFY! SAY SOMETHING ROGUISH AND WITTY!
YAAAARGHH!!
CONT'D.!


ZIPPY "THEY'LL MICROWAVE YOUR MEDULLA!!" BILL GRIFFITH
OKAY, OKAY! I ADMIT IT!! I'M BOTH REPULSED BY & ATTRACTED TO TH' SUPERHERO GENRE! IT'S SICK, BUT FASCINATING!!
'NUFF SAID!!
GRIFFY
12-7
WELL, THAT'S BETTER! NOW, I WON'T HAVE TO PRESSURE-COOK YOUR PINEAL GLANDS!
I EVEN HAD BREAKFAST ONCE WITH STAN LEE!! * I FOUND HIM TO BE A CHARMING CONVERSATIONALIST!
AND HE NEVER ONCE THREATENED TO SEVER OUR SPINAL CHORDS!!
GOOD, GOOD..
* PUBLISHER: MARVEL COMICS
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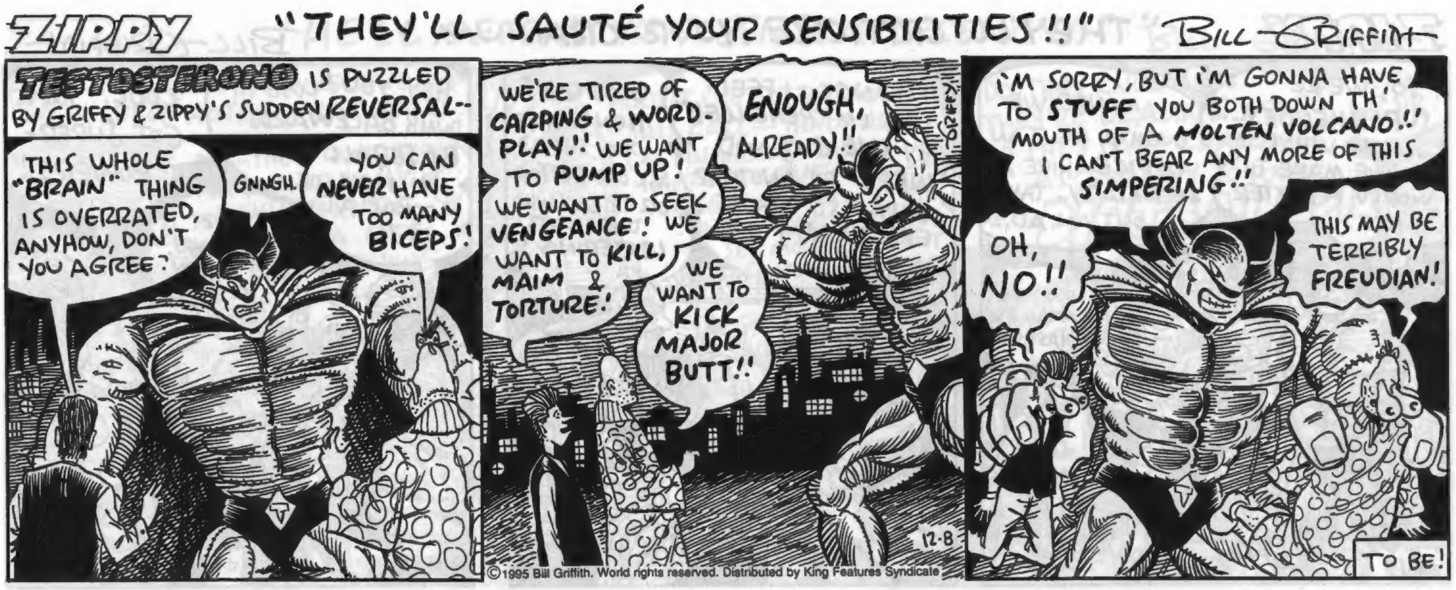
PLUS, I FURTHER CONFESS THAT, AS A KID, I READ "SUPERBOY" RELIGIOUSLY..I EVEN WORE A... ..CHOKE.. CAPE ONE HALLOWEEN...
?
I ALWAYS ENVIED.. ..SNIFF.. CAPTAIN MARVEL'S EYEBROWS!!
MORE!


ZIPPY
"THEY'LL SAUTÉ YOUR SENSIBILITIES!!"
BILL GRIFFITH
TESTOSTERONO IS PUZZLED BY GRIFFY & ZIPPY'S SUDDEN REVERSAL--
THIS WHOLE "BRAIN" THING IS OVERRATED, ANYHOW, DON'T YOU AGREE?
GNNGH
YOU CAN NEVER HAVE TOO MANY BICEPS!
WE'RE TIRED OF CARPING & WORD-PLAY!! WE WANT TO PUMP UP! WE WANT TO SEEK VENGEANCE! WE WANT TO KILL, MAIM & TORTURE!
WE WANT TO KICK MAJOR BUTT!!
ENOUGH, ALREADY!!
GRIFFY
12-8
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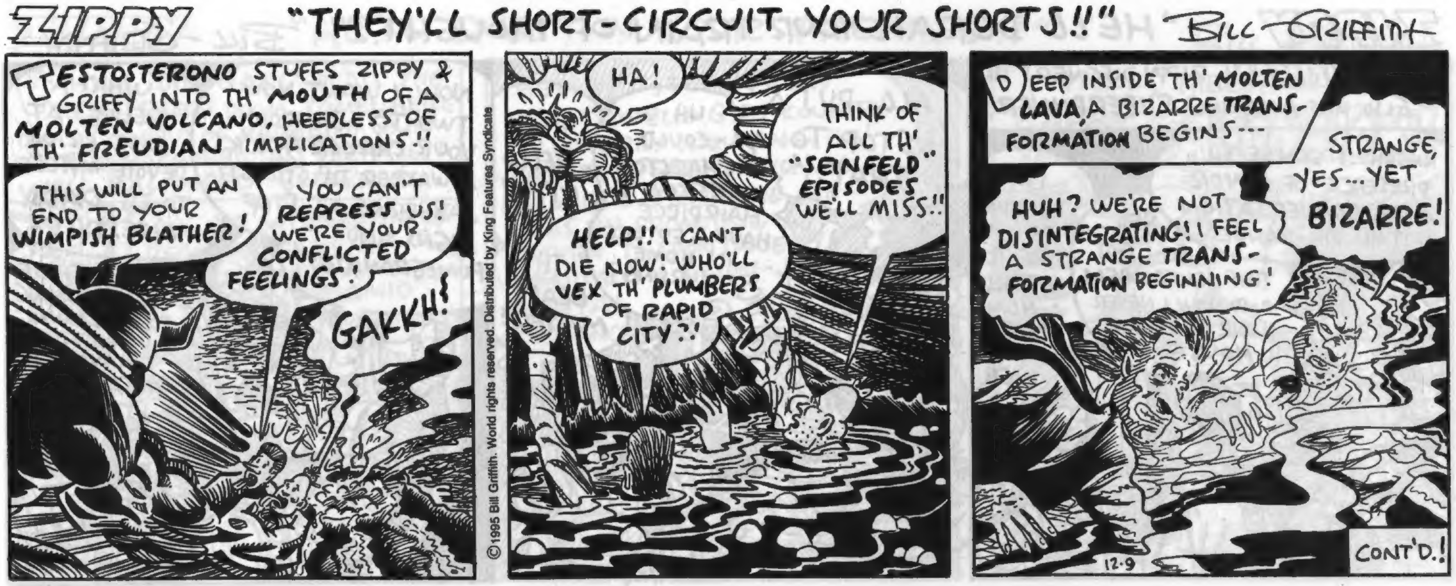
I'M SORRY, BUT I'M GONNA HAVE TO STUFF YOU BOTH DOWN TH' MOUTH OF A MOLTEN VOLCANO!! I CAN'T BEAR ANY MORE OF THIS SIMPERING!!
OH, NO!!
THIS MAY BE TERRIBLY FREUDIAN!
TO BE!


ZIPPY
"THEY'LL SHORT-CIRCUIT YOUR SHORTS!!"
BILL GRIFFITH
TESTOSTERONO STUFFS ZIPPY & GRIFFY INTO TH' MOUTH OF A MOLTEN VOLCANO, HEEDLESS OF TH' FREUDIAN IMPLICATIONS!!
THIS WILL PUT AN END TO YOUR WIMPISH BLATHER!
YOU CAN'T REPRESS US! WE'RE YOUR CONFLICTED FEELINGS!
GAKKH!
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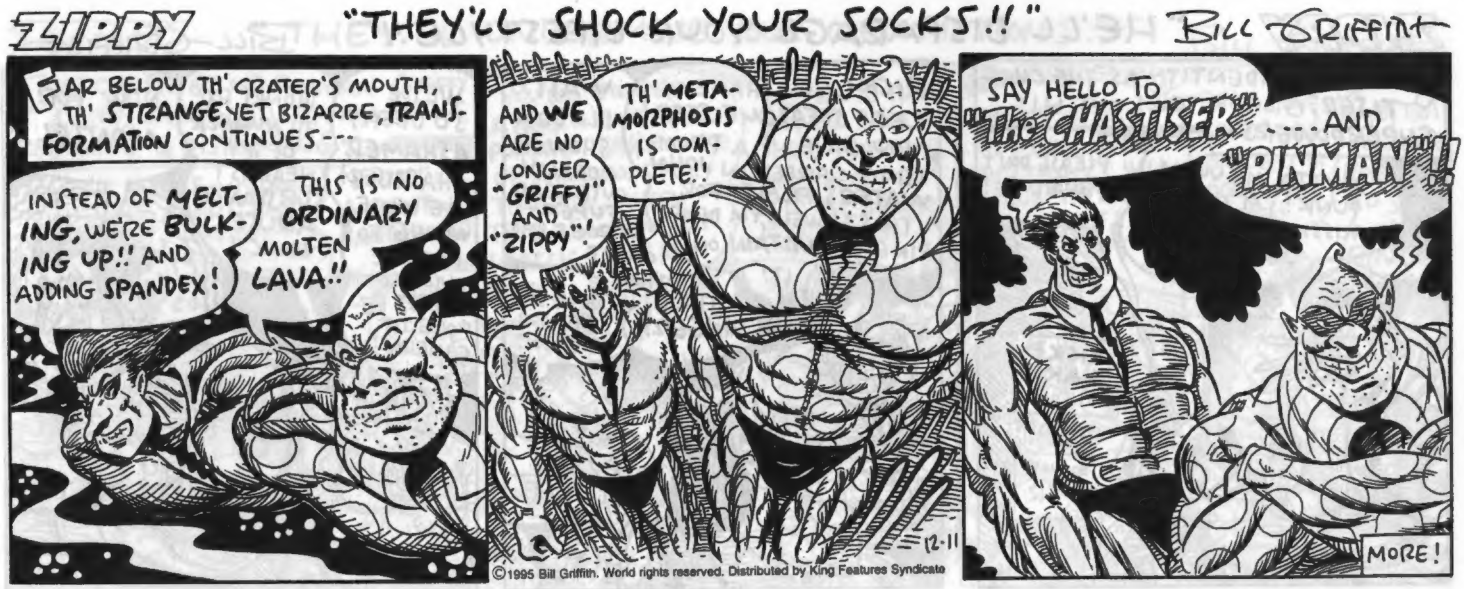
HA!
HELP!! I CAN'T DIE NOW! WHO'LL VEX TH' PLUMBERS OF RAPID CITY?!
THINK OF ALL TH' "SEINFELD" EPISODES WE'LL MISS!!
DEEP INSIDE TH' MOLTEN LAVA, A BIZARRE TRANSFORMATION BEGINS---
HUH? WE'RE NOT DISINTEGRATING! I FEEL A STRANGE TRANSFORMATION BEGINNING!
STRANGE, YES...YET BIZARRE!
12-9
CONT'D.!


ZIPPY
"THEY'LL SHOCK YOUR SOCKS!!"
BILL GRIFFITH
FAR BELOW TH' CRATER'S MOUTH, TH' STRANGE, YET BIZARRE, TRANSFORMATION CONTINUES---
INSTEAD OF MELTING, WE'RE BULKING UP!! AND ADDING SPANDEX!
THIS IS NO ORDINARY MOLTEN LAVA!!
AND WE ARE NO LONGER "GRIFFY" AND "ZIPPY"!
TH' METAMORPHOSIS IS COMPLETE!!
12-11
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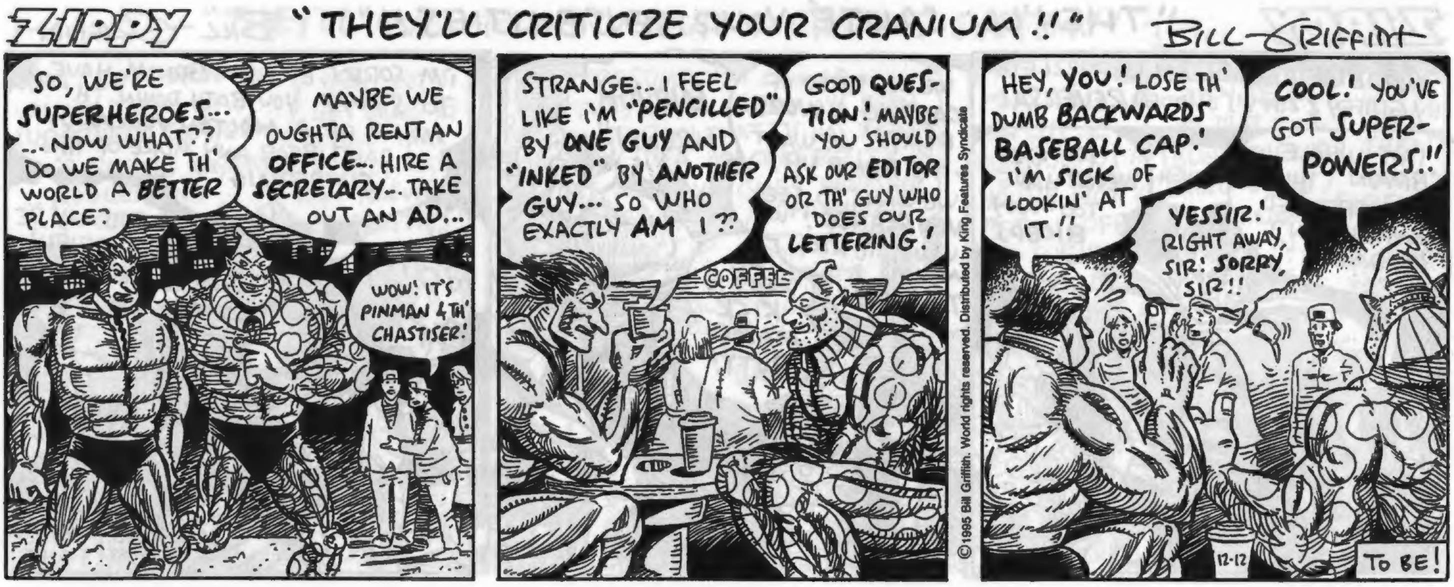
SAY HELLO TO "The CHASTISER" ....AND "PINMAN"!!
MORE!


ZIPPY
"THEY'LL CRITICIZE YOUR CRANIUM!!"
BILL GRIFFITH
SO, WE'RE SUPERHEROES... ...NOW WHAT?? DO WE MAKE TH' WORLD A BETTER PLACE?
MAYBE WE OUGHTA RENT AN OFFICE.. HIRE A SECRETARY.. TAKE OUT AN AD...
WOW! IT'S PINMAN & TH' CHASTISER!
STRANGE.. I FEEL LIKE I'M "PENCILLED" BY ONE GUY AND "INKED" BY ANOTHER GUY... SO WHO EXACTLY AM I??
GOOD QUESTION! MAYBE YOU SHOULD ASK OUR EDITOR OR TH' GUY WHO DOES OUR LETTERING!
COFFEE
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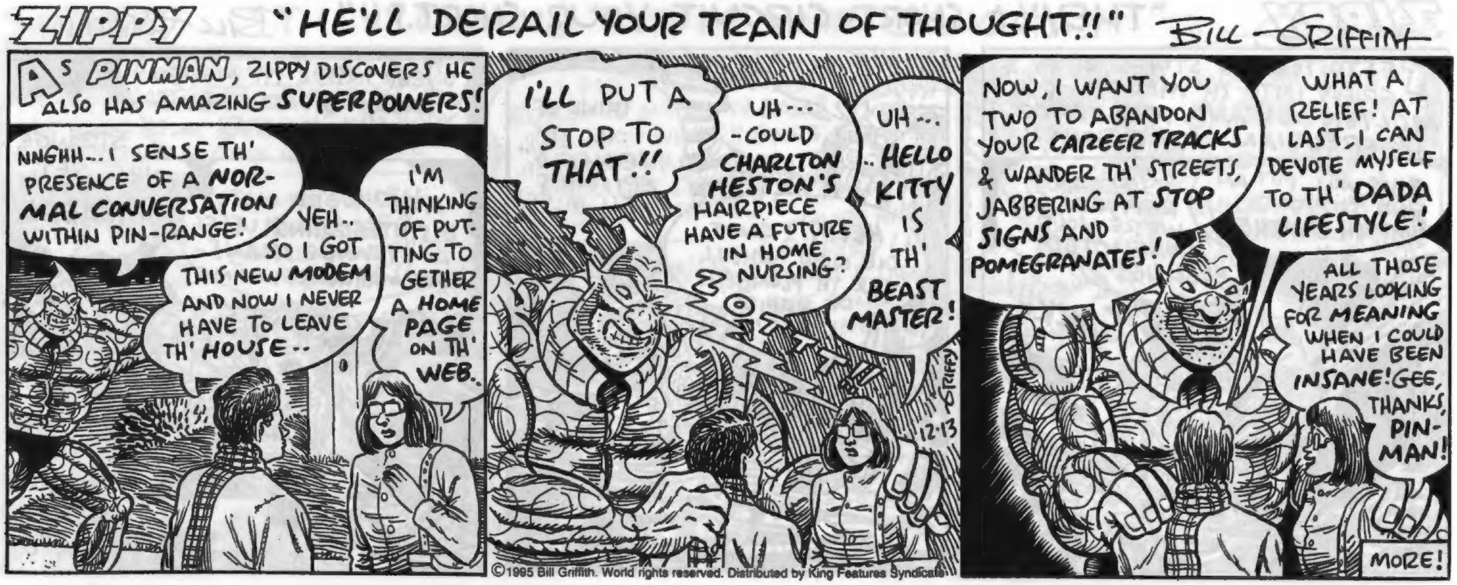
HEY, YOU! LOSE TH' DUMB BACKWARDS BASEBALL CAP! I'M SICK OF LOOKIN' AT IT!!
COOL! YOU'VE GOT SUPERPOWERS!!
YESSIR! RIGHT AWAY, SIR! SORRY, SIR!!
12-12
TO BE!


ZIPPY
"HE'LL DERAIL YOUR TRAIN OF THOUGHT!!"
BILL GRIFFITH
AS PINMAN, ZIPPY DISCOVERS HE ALSO HAS AMAZING SUPERPOWERS!
NNGHH.. I SENSE TH' PRESENCE OF A NORMAL CONVERSATION WITHIN PIN-RANGE!
YEH.. SO I GOT THIS NEW MODEM AND NOW I NEVER HAVE TO LEAVE TH' HOUSE..
I'M THINKING OF PUTTING TOGETHER A HOME PAGE ON TH' WEB.
I'LL PUT A STOP TO THAT!!
UH... -COULD CHARLTON HESTON'S HAIRPIECE HAVE A FUTURE IN HOME NURSING?
UH... ..HELLO KITTY IS TH' BEAST MASTER!
ZOTTT!!
GRIFFY
12-13
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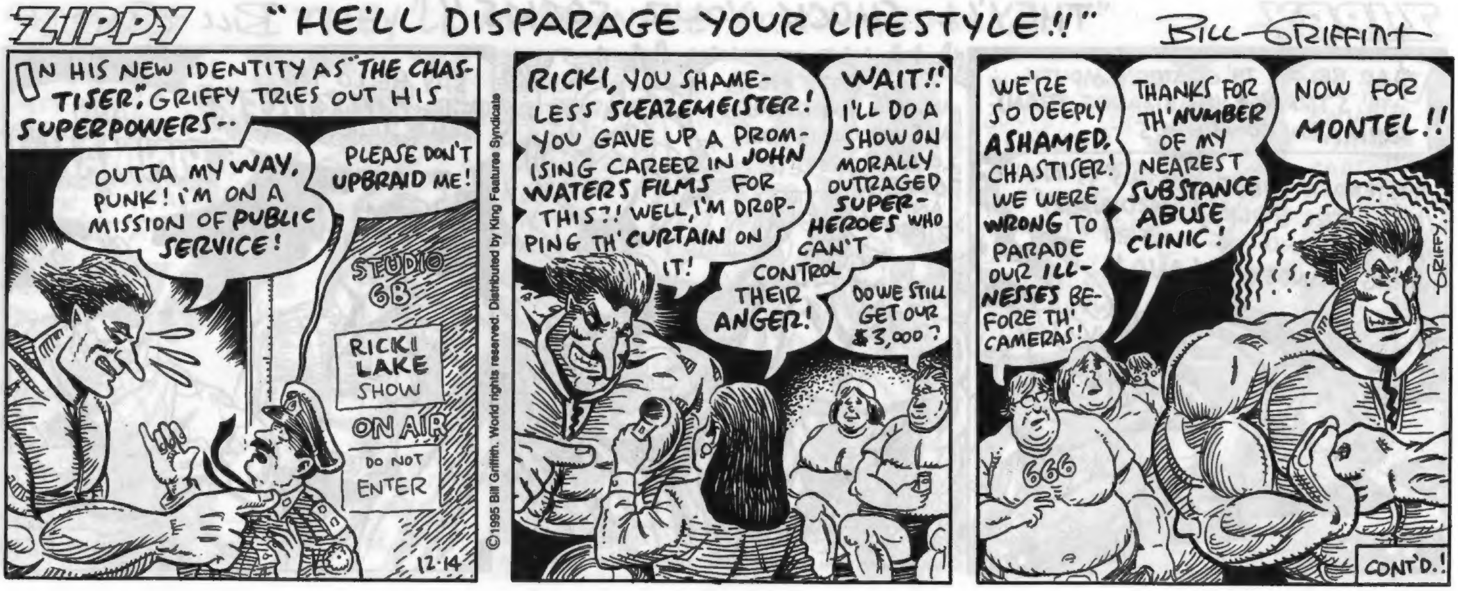
NOW, I WANT YOU TWO TO ABANDON YOUR CAREER TRACKS & WANDER TH' STREETS, JABBERING AT STOP SIGNS AND POMEGRANATES!
WHAT A RELIEF! AT LAST, I CAN DEVOTE MYSELF TO TH' DADA LIFESTYLE!
ALL THOSE YEARS LOOKING FOR MEANING WHEN I COULD HAVE BEEN INSANE! GEE, THANKS, PINMAN!
MORE!


ZIPPY
"HE'LL DISPARAGE YOUR LIFESTYLE!!"
BILL GRIFFITH
IN HIS NEW IDENTITY AS "THE CHASTISER", GRIFFY TRIES OUT HIS SUPERPOWERS..
OUTTA MY WAY, PUNK! I'M ON A MISSION OF PUBLIC SERVICE!
PLEASE DON'T UPBRAID ME!
STUDIO 6B
RICKI LAKE SHOW
ON AIR
DO NOT ENTER
12-14
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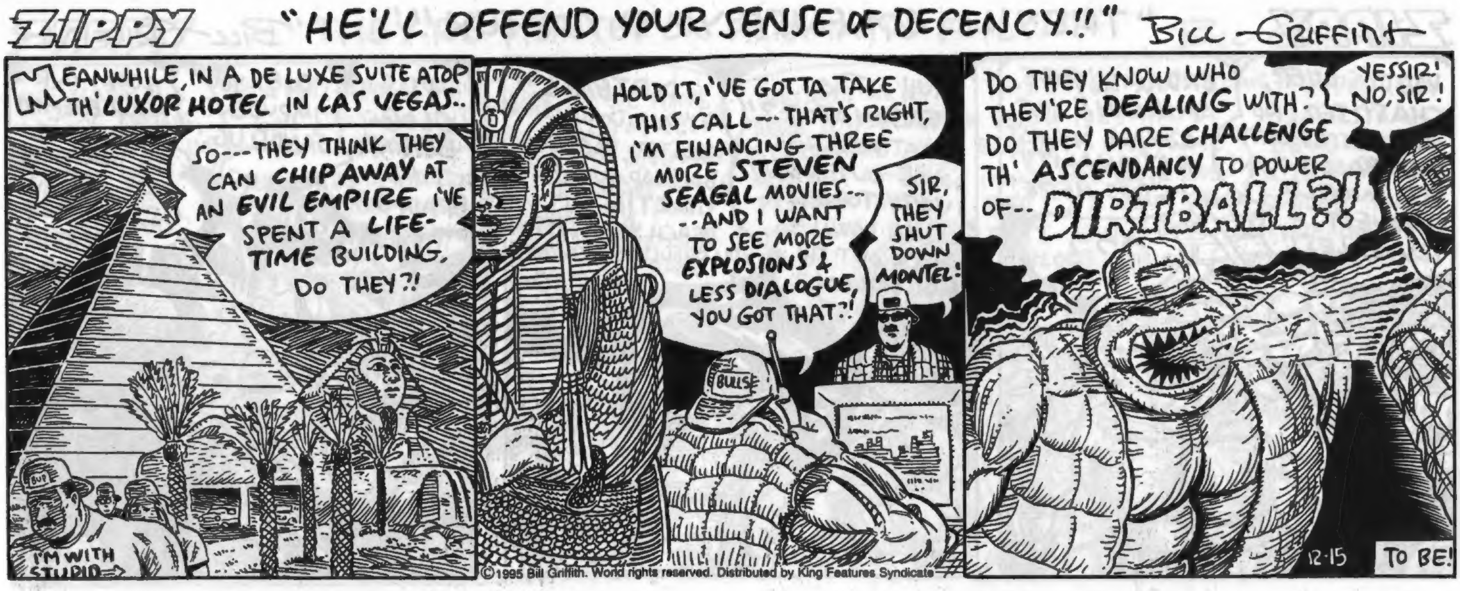
RICKI, YOU SHAMELESS SLEAZEMEISTER! YOU GAVE UP A PROMISING CAREER IN JOHN WATERS FILMS FOR THIS?! WELL, I'M DROPPING TH' CURTAIN ON IT!
WAIT!! I'LL DO A SHOW ON MORALLY OUTRAGED SUPERHEROES WHO CAN'T CONTROL THEIR ANGER!
DO WE STILL GET OUR $3,000?
WE'RE SO DEEPLY ASHAMED, CHASTISER! WE WERE WRONG TO PARADE OUR ILLNESSES BEFORE TH' CAMERAS!
THANKS FOR TH' NUMBER OF MY NEAREST SUBSTANCE ABUSE CLINIC!
NOW FOR MONTEL!!
666
GRIFFY
CONT'D.!


ZIPPY
"HE'LL OFFEND YOUR SENSE OF DECENCY!!"
BILL GRIFFITH
MEANWHILE, IN A DE LUXE SUITE ATOP TH' LUXOR HOTEL IN LAS VEGAS..
SO--- THEY THINK THEY CAN CHIP AWAY AT AN EVIL EMPIRE I'VE SPENT A LIFETIME BUILDING. DO THEY?!
I'M WITH STUPID
HOLD IT, I'VE GOTTA TAKE THIS CALL--- THAT'S RIGHT, I'M FINANCING THREE MORE STEVEN SEAGAL MOVIES... --AND I WANT TO SEE MORE EXPLOSIONS & LESS DIALOGUE, YOU GOT THAT?!
SIR, THEY SHUT DOWN MONTEL!
BULLS
DO THEY KNOW WHO THEY'RE DEALING WITH? DO THEY DARE CHALLENGE TH' ASCENDANCY TO POWER OF-- DIRTBALL?!
YESSIR! NO, SIR!
12-15
TO BE!
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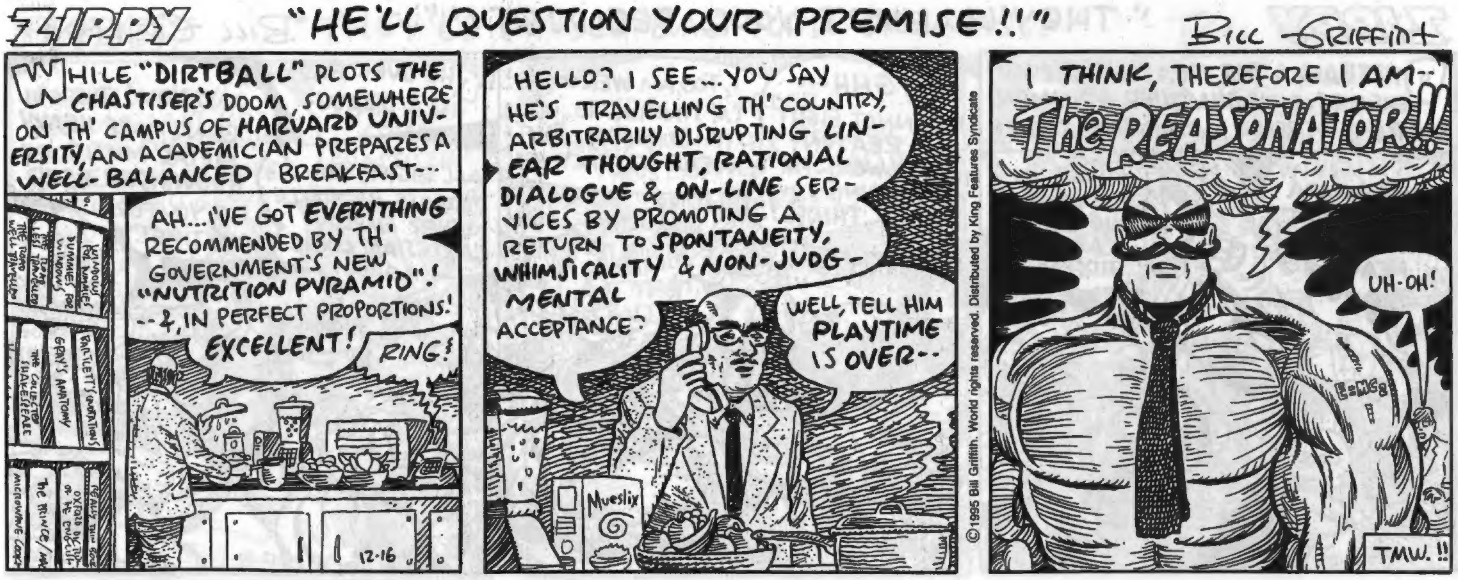
ZIPPY
"HE'LL QUESTION YOUR PREMISE!!"
BILL GRIFFITH
WHILE "DIRTBALL" PLOTS THE CHASTISER'S DOOM, SOMEWHERE ON TH' CAMPUS OF HARVARD UNIVERSITY, AN ACADEMICIAN PREPARES A WELL-BALANCED BREAKFAST---
AH...I'VE GOT EVERYTHING RECOMMENDED BY TH' GOVERNMENT'S NEW "NUTRITION PYRAMID"! --&, IN PERFECT PROPORTIONS! EXCELLENT!
RING!
GRAY'S ANATOMY
BARTLETT'S QUOTATIONS
THE COLLECTED SHAKESPEARE
DUMMIES FOR WINDOWS
THE PRINCE
12-16
HELLO? I SEE...YOU SAY HE'S TRAVELLING TH' COUNTRY, ARBITRARILY DISRUPTING LINEAR THOUGHT, RATIONAL DIALOGUE & ON-LINE SERVICES BY PROMOTING A RETURN TO SPONTANEITY, WHIMSICALITY & NON-JUDGMENTAL ACCEPTANCE?
WELL, TELL HIM PLAYTIME IS OVER--
Mueslix
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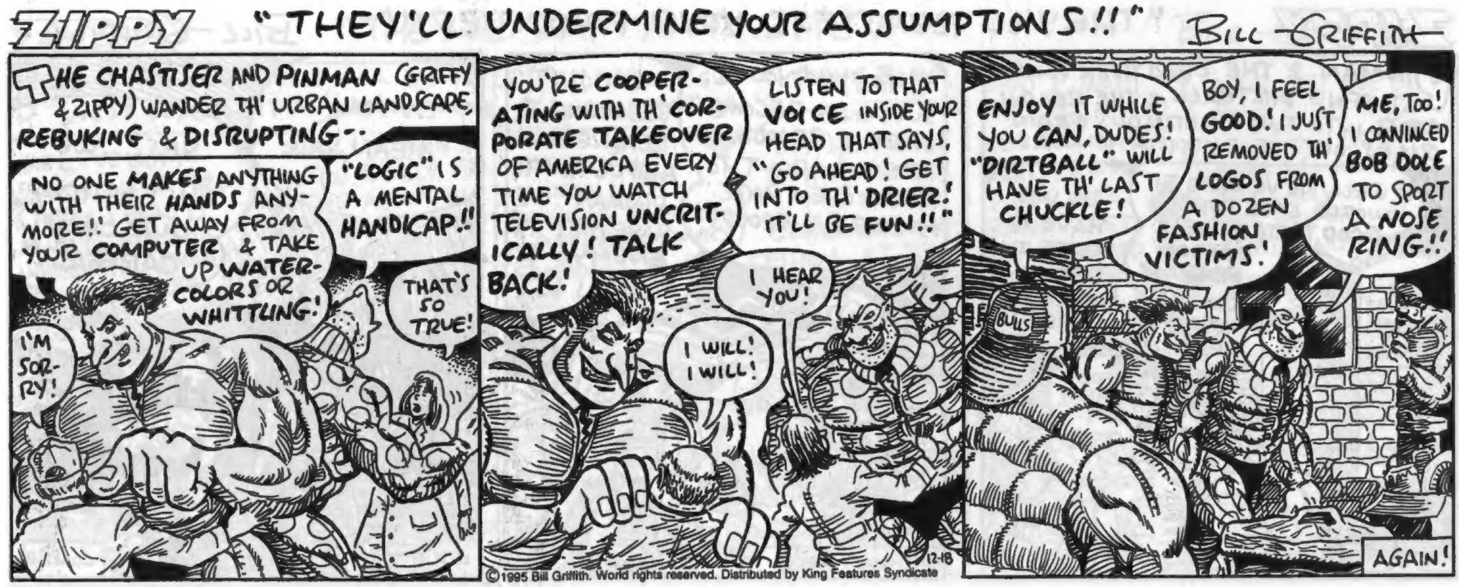
I THINK, THEREFORE I AM-- The REASONATOR!!
UH-OH!
E=MC²
TMW.!!


ZIPPY
"THEY'LL UNDERMINE YOUR ASSUMPTIONS!!"
BILL GRIFFITH
THE CHASTISER AND PINMAN (GRIFFY & ZIPPY) WANDER TH' URBAN LANDSCAPE, REBUKING & DISRUPTING--
NO ONE MAKES ANYTHING WITH THEIR HANDS ANYMORE!! GET AWAY FROM YOUR COMPUTER & TAKE UP WATERCOLORS OR WHITTLING!
"LOGIC" IS A MENTAL HANDICAP!!
THAT'S SO TRUE!
I'M SORRY!
YOU'RE COOPERATING WITH TH' CORPORATE TAKEOVER OF AMERICA EVERY TIME YOU WATCH TELEVISION UNCRITICALLY! TALK BACK!
LISTEN TO THAT VOICE INSIDE YOUR HEAD THAT SAYS, "GO AHEAD! GET INTO TH' DRIER! IT'LL BE FUN!!"
I HEAR YOU!
I WILL! I WILL!
12-18
ENJOY IT WHILE YOU CAN, DUDES! "DIRTBALL" WILL HAVE TH' LAST CHUCKLE!
BOY, I FEEL GOOD! I JUST REMOVED TH' LOGOS FROM A DOZEN FASHION VICTIMS!
ME, TOO! I CONVINCED BOB DOLE TO SPORT A NOSE RING!!
BULLS
AGAIN!
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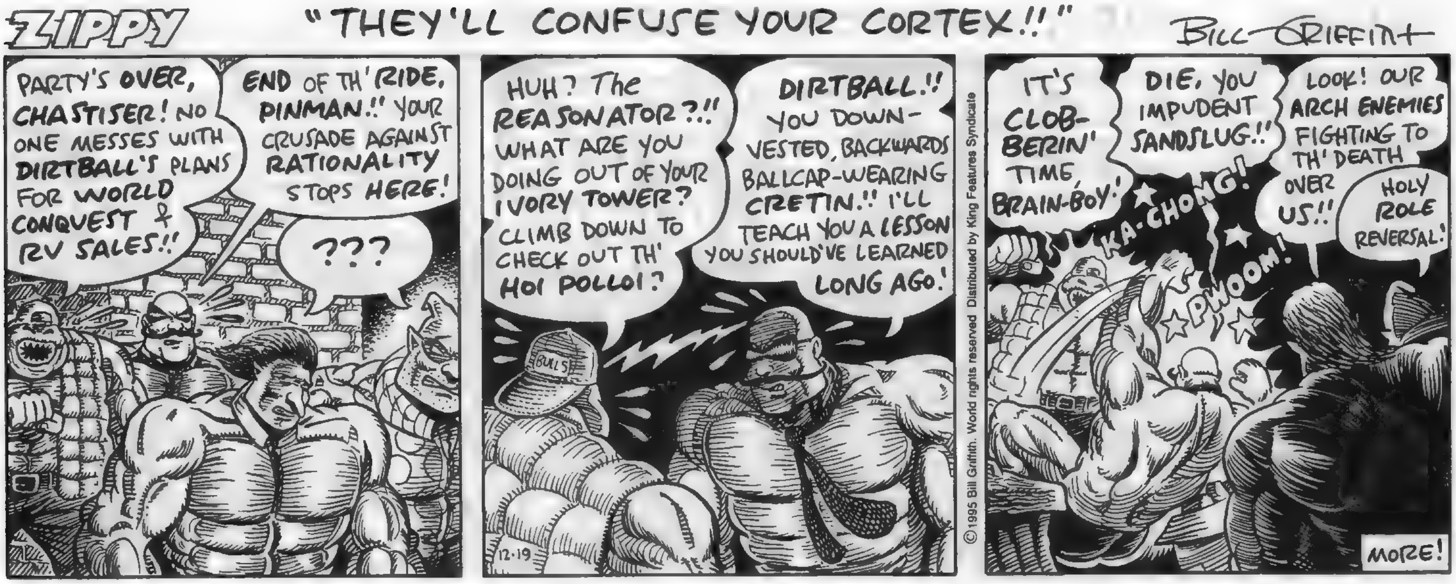
ZIPPY
"THEY'LL CONFUSE YOUR CORTEX!!"
BILL GRIFFITH
PARTY'S OVER, CHASTISER! NO ONE MESSES WITH DIRTBALL'S PLANS FOR WORLD CONQUEST & RV SALES!!
END OF TH' RIDE, PINMAN!! YOUR CRUSADE AGAINST RATIONALITY STOPS HERE!
???
HUH? The REASONATOR?!! WHAT ARE YOU DOING OUT OF YOUR IVORY TOWER? CLIMB DOWN TO CHECK OUT TH' HOI POLLOI?
DIRTBALL!! YOU DOWN-VESTED, BACKWARDS BALLCAP-WEARING CRETIN!! I'LL TEACH YOU A LESSON YOU SHOULD'VE LEARNED LONG AGO!
BULLS
12-19
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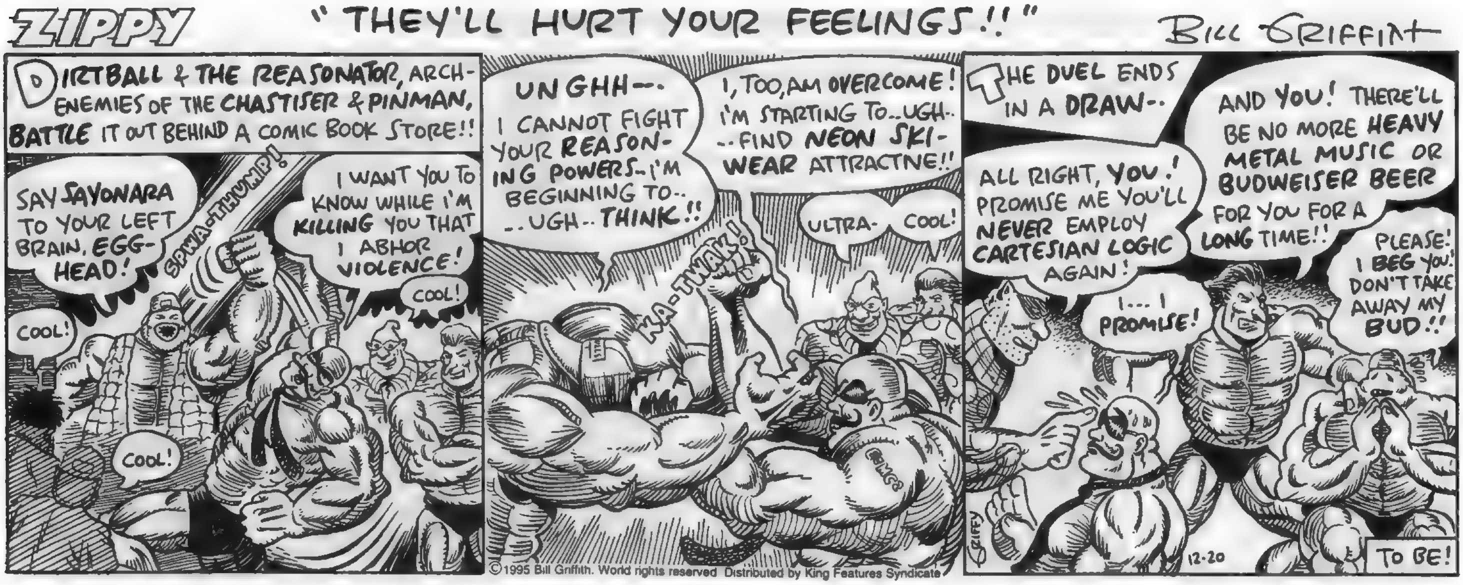
IT'S CLOBBERIN' TIME, BRAIN-BOY!
DIE, YOU IMPUDENT SANDSLUG!!
LOOK! OUR ARCH ENEMIES FIGHTING TO TH' DEATH OVER US!!
HOLY ROLE REVERSAL!
KA-CHONG!
PHOOM!
MORE!


ZIPPY
"THEY'LL HURT YOUR FEELINGS!!"
BILL GRIFFITH
DIRTBALL & THE REASONATOR, ARCH-ENEMIES OF THE CHASTISER & PINMAN, BATTLE IT OUT BEHIND A COMIC BOOK STORE!!
SAY SAYONARA TO YOUR LEFT BRAIN, EGG-HEAD!
SPWA-THUMP!
I WANT YOU TO KNOW WHILE I'M KILLING YOU THAT I ABHOR VIOLENCE!
COOL!
COOL!
COOL!
UNGHH-- I CANNOT FIGHT YOUR REASONING POWERS.. I'M BEGINNING TO.. ..UGH.. THINK!!
I, TOO, AM OVERCOME! I'M STARTING TO..UGH.. --FIND NEON SKI-WEAR ATTRACTIVE!!
ULTRA-
COOL!
KA-TWAK!
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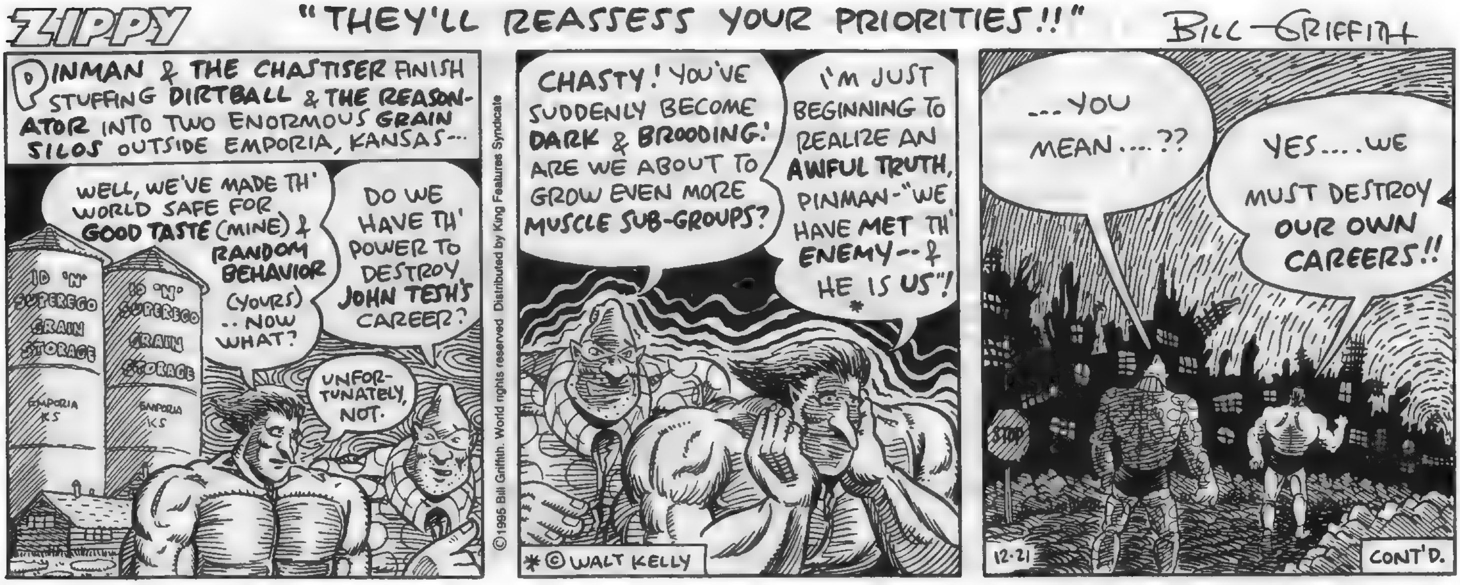
THE DUEL ENDS IN A DRAW..
ALL RIGHT, YOU! PROMISE ME YOU'LL NEVER EMPLOY CARTESIAN LOGIC AGAIN!
I... I PROMISE!
AND YOU! THERE'LL BE NO MORE HEAVY METAL MUSIC OR BUDWEISER BEER FOR YOU FOR A LONG TIME!!
PLEASE! I BEG YOU! DON'T TAKE AWAY MY BUD!!
GRIFFY
12-20
TO BE!


ZIPPY
"THEY'LL REASSESS YOUR PRIORITIES!!"
BILL GRIFFITH
PINMAN & THE CHASTISER FINISH STUFFING DIRTBALL & THE REASONATOR INTO TWO ENORMOUS GRAIN SILOS OUTSIDE EMPORIA, KANSAS--
WELL, WE'VE MADE TH' WORLD SAFE FOR GOOD TASTE (MINE) & RANDOM BEHAVIOR (YOURS) .. NOW WHAT?
DO WE HAVE TH' POWER TO DESTROY JOHN TESH'S CAREER?
ID 'N' SUPEREGO GRAIN STORAGE EMPORIA KS
ID 'N' SUPEREGO GRAIN STORAGE EMPORIA KS
UNFORTUNATELY, NOT.
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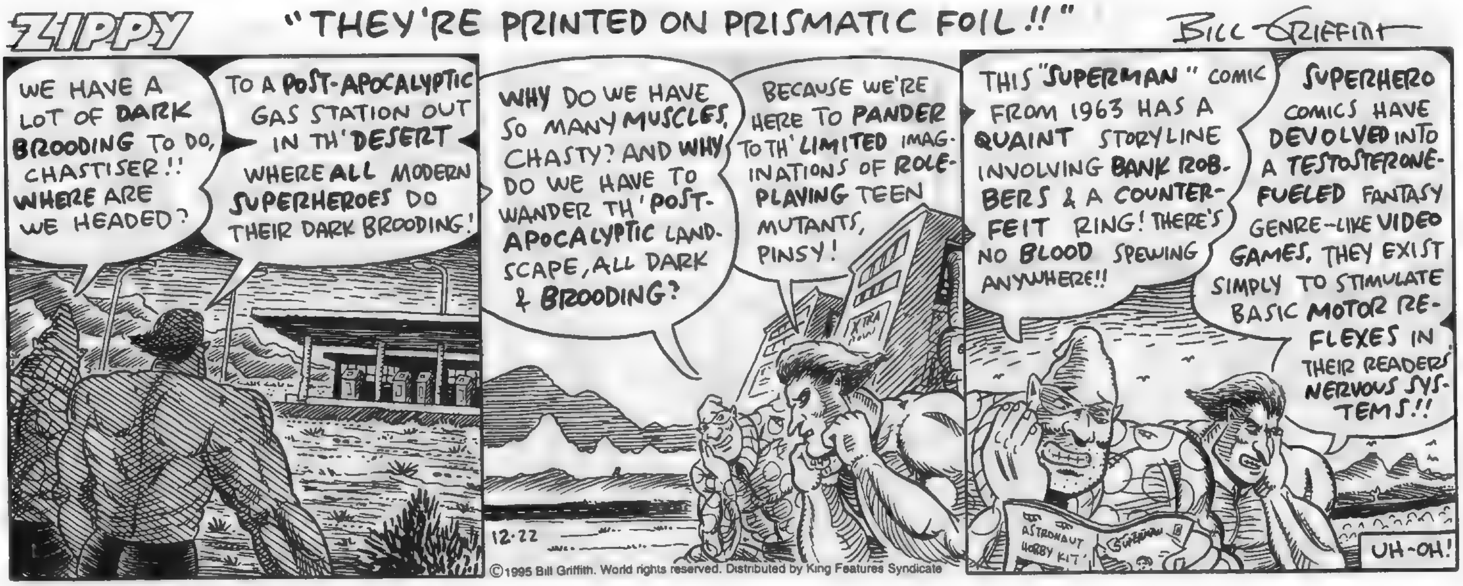
CHASTY! YOU'VE SUDDENLY BECOME DARK & BROODING! ARE WE ABOUT TO GROW EVEN MORE MUSCLE SUB-GROUPS?
I'M JUST BEGINNING TO REALIZE AN AWFUL TRUTH, PINMAN-"WE HAVE MET TH' ENEMY--& HE IS US"! *
* © WALT KELLY
...YOU MEAN....??
YES.....WE MUST DESTROY OUR OWN CAREERS!!
STOP
12-21
CONT'D.


ZIPPY
"THEY'RE PRINTED ON PRISMATIC FOIL!!"
BILL GRIFFITH
WE HAVE A LOT OF DARK BROODING TO DO, CHASTISER!! WHERE ARE WE HEADED?
TO A POST-APOCALYPTIC GAS STATION OUT IN TH' DESERT WHERE ALL MODERN SUPERHEROES DO THEIR DARK BROODING!
WHY DO WE HAVE SO MANY MUSCLES, CHASTY? AND WHY DO WE HAVE TO WANDER TH' POST-APOCALYPTIC LANDSCAPE, ALL DARK & BROODING?
BECAUSE WE'RE HERE TO PANDER TO TH' LIMITED IMAGINATIONS OF ROLE-PLAYING TEEN MUTANTS, PINSY!
XTRA
12-22
THIS "SUPERMAN" COMIC FROM 1963 HAS A QUAINT STORYLINE INVOLVING BANK ROBBERS & A COUNTERFEIT RING! THERE'S NO BLOOD SPEWING ANYWHERE!!
SUPERHERO COMICS HAVE DEVOLVED INTO A TESTOSTERONE-FUELED FANTASY GENRE--LIKE VIDEO GAMES. THEY EXIST SIMPLY TO STIMULATE BASIC MOTOR REFLEXES IN THEIR READERS' NERVOUS SYSTEMS!!
ASTRONAUT HOBBY KIT
SUPERMAN
UH-OH!
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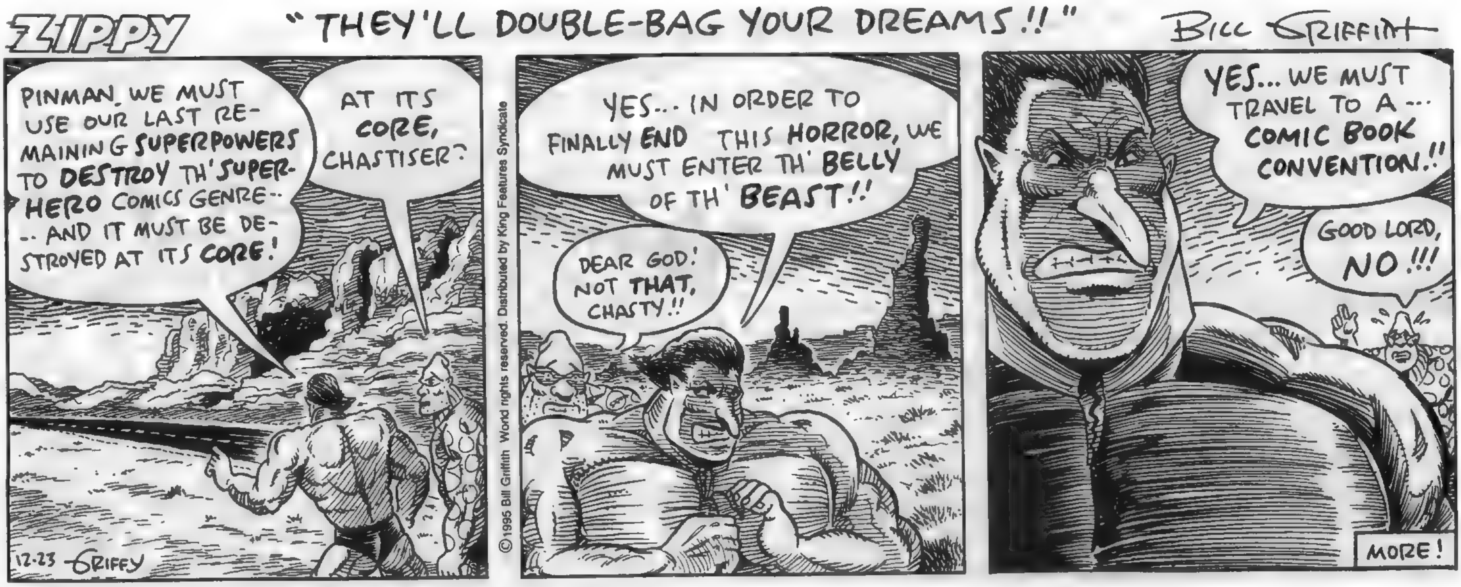
ZIPPY
"THEY'LL DOUBLE-BAG YOUR DREAMS!!"
BILL GRIFFITH
PINMAN, WE MUST USE OUR LAST REMAINING SUPERPOWERS TO DESTROY TH' SUPERHERO COMICS GENRE-- -- AND IT MUST BE DESTROYED AT ITS CORE!
AT ITS CORE, CHASTISER?
12-23 GRIFFY
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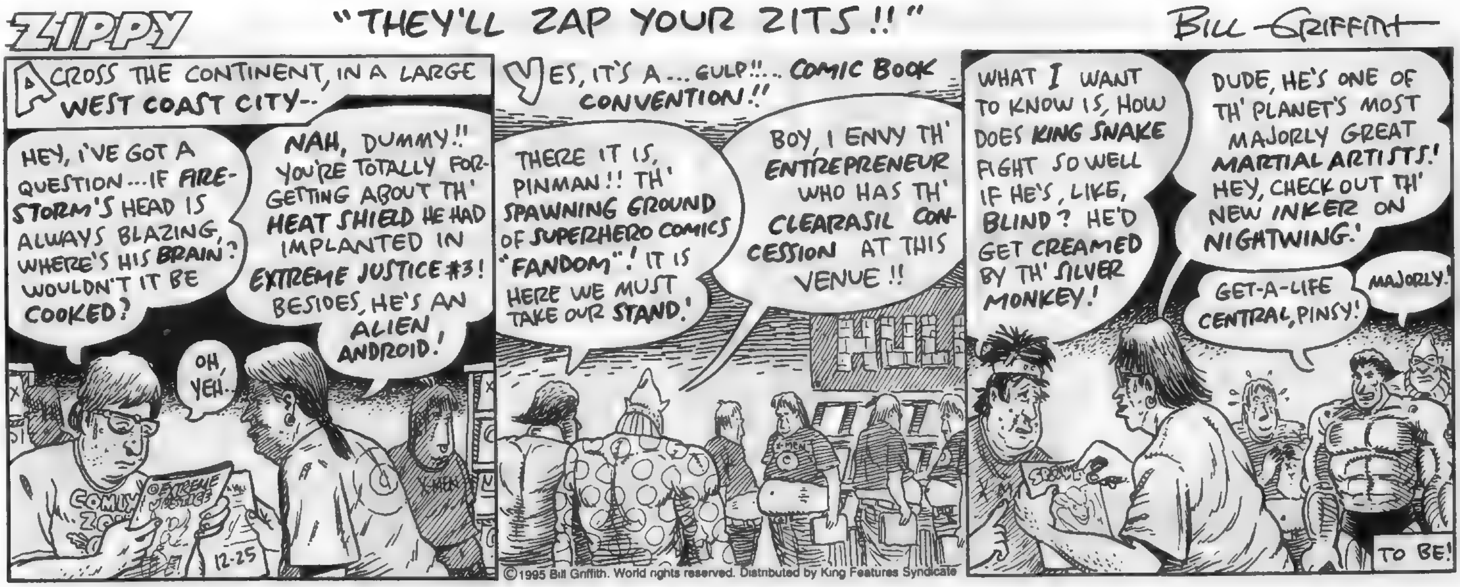
YES... IN ORDER TO FINALLY END THIS HORROR, WE MUST ENTER TH' BELLY OF TH' BEAST!!
DEAR GOD! NOT THAT, CHASTY!!
YES... WE MUST TRAVEL TO A... COMIC BOOK CONVENTION!!
GOOD LORD, NO!!!
MORE!


ZIPPY
"THEY'LL ZAP YOUR ZITS!!"
BILL GRIFFITH
ACROSS THE CONTINENT, IN A LARGE WEST COAST CITY--
HEY, I'VE GOT A QUESTION... IF FIRESTORM'S HEAD IS ALWAYS BLAZING, WHERE'S HIS BRAIN? WOULDN'T IT BE COOKED?
NAH, DUMMY!! YOU'RE TOTALLY FORGETTING ABOUT TH' HEAT SHIELD HE HAD IMPLANTED IN EXTREME JUSTICE #3! BESIDES, HE'S AN ALIEN ANDROID!
OH, YEH.
COMIC ZONE
EXTREME JUSTICE
X-MEN
12-25
YES, IT'S A... GULP!!... COMIC BOOK CONVENTION!!
THERE IT IS, PINMAN!! TH' SPAWNING GROUND OF SUPERHERO COMICS "FANDOM"! IT IS HERE WE MUST TAKE OUR STAND!
BOY, I ENVY TH' ENTREPRENEUR WHO HAS TH' CLEARASIL CONCESSION AT THIS VENUE!!
X-MEN
WHAT I WANT TO KNOW IS, HOW DOES KING SNAKE FIGHT SO WELL IF HE'S, LIKE, BLIND? HE'D GET CREAMED BY TH' SILVER MONKEY!
DUDE, HE'S ONE OF TH' PLANET'S MOST MAJORLY GREAT MARTIAL ARTISTS! HEY, CHECK OUT TH' NEW INKER ON NIGHTWING!
GET-A-LIFE CENTRAL, PINSY!
MAJORLY!
TO BE!
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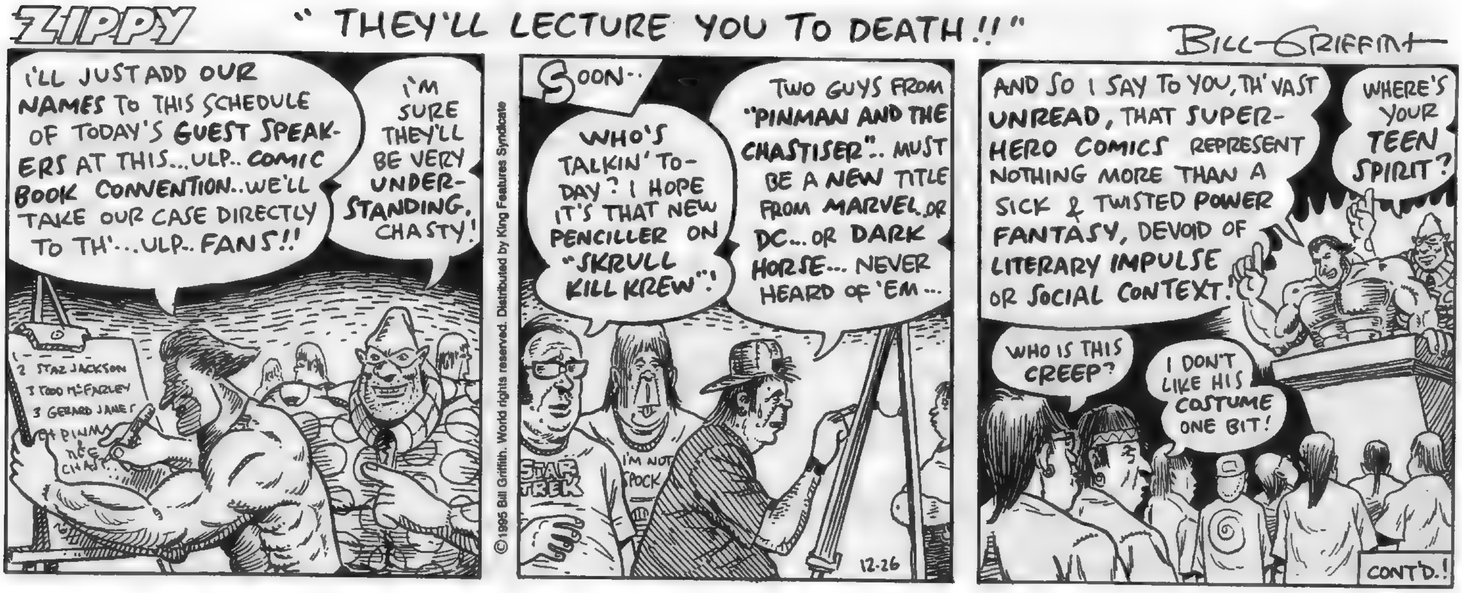
ZIPPY
" THEY'LL LECTURE YOU TO DEATH !! "
BILL GRIFFITH
I'LL JUST ADD OUR NAMES TO THIS SCHEDULE OF TODAY'S GUEST SPEAKERS AT THIS...ULP.. COMIC BOOK CONVENTION..WE'LL TAKE OUR CASE DIRECTLY TO TH'...ULP.. FANS!!
I'M SURE THEY'LL BE VERY UNDERSTANDING, CHASTY!
2 STAZ JACKSON
3 TODD McFARLEY
3 GERARD JANES
4 PINMAN & THE CHAST.
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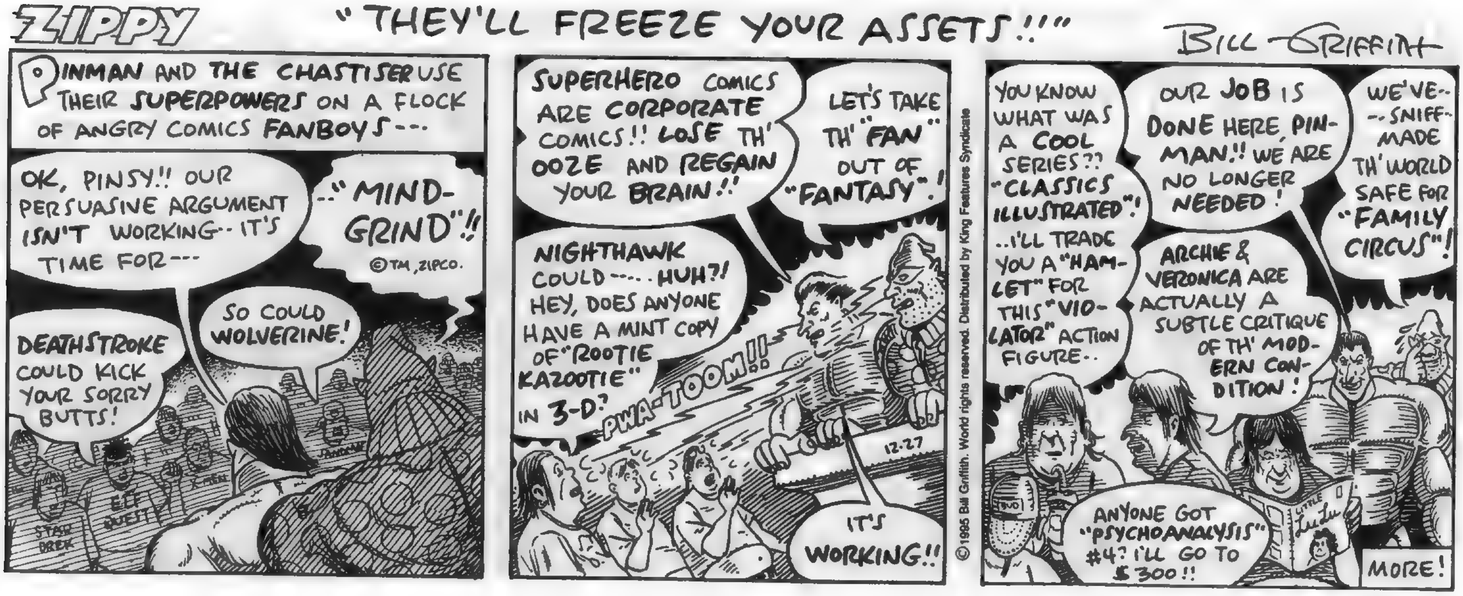
SOON..
WHO'S TALKIN' TODAY? I HOPE IT'S THAT NEW PENCILLER ON "SKRULL KILL KREW"!
TWO GUYS FROM "PINMAN AND THE CHASTISER".. MUST BE A NEW TITLE FROM MARVEL..OR DC...OR DARK HORSE... NEVER HEARD OF 'EM...
STAR TREK
I'M NOT SPOCK
12-26
AND SO I SAY TO YOU, TH' VAST UNREAD, THAT SUPERHERO COMICS REPRESENT NOTHING MORE THAN A SICK & TWISTED POWER FANTASY, DEVOID OF LITERARY IMPULSE OR SOCIAL CONTEXT!
WHERE'S YOUR TEEN SPIRIT?
WHO IS THIS CREEP?
I DON'T LIKE HIS COSTUME ONE BIT!
CONT'D.!


ZIPPY
" THEY'LL FREEZE YOUR ASSETS !! "
BILL GRIFFITH
PINMAN AND THE CHASTISER USE THEIR SUPERPOWERS ON A FLOCK OF ANGRY COMICS FANBOYS---
OK, PINSY!! OUR PERSUASIVE ARGUMENT ISN'T WORKING-- IT'S TIME FOR---
--"MIND-GRIND"!!
©TM, ZIPCO.
DEATHSTROKE COULD KICK YOUR SORRY BUTTS!
SO COULD WOLVERINE!
STAR TREK
SUPERHERO COMICS ARE CORPORATE COMICS!! LOSE TH' OOZE AND REGAIN YOUR BRAIN!!
LET'S TAKE TH' "FAN" OUT OF "FANTASY"!
NIGHTHAWK COULD---- HUH?! HEY, DOES ANYONE HAVE A MINT COPY OF "ROOTIE KAZOOTIE" IN 3-D?
PWA-TOOM!!
12-27
IT'S WORKING!!
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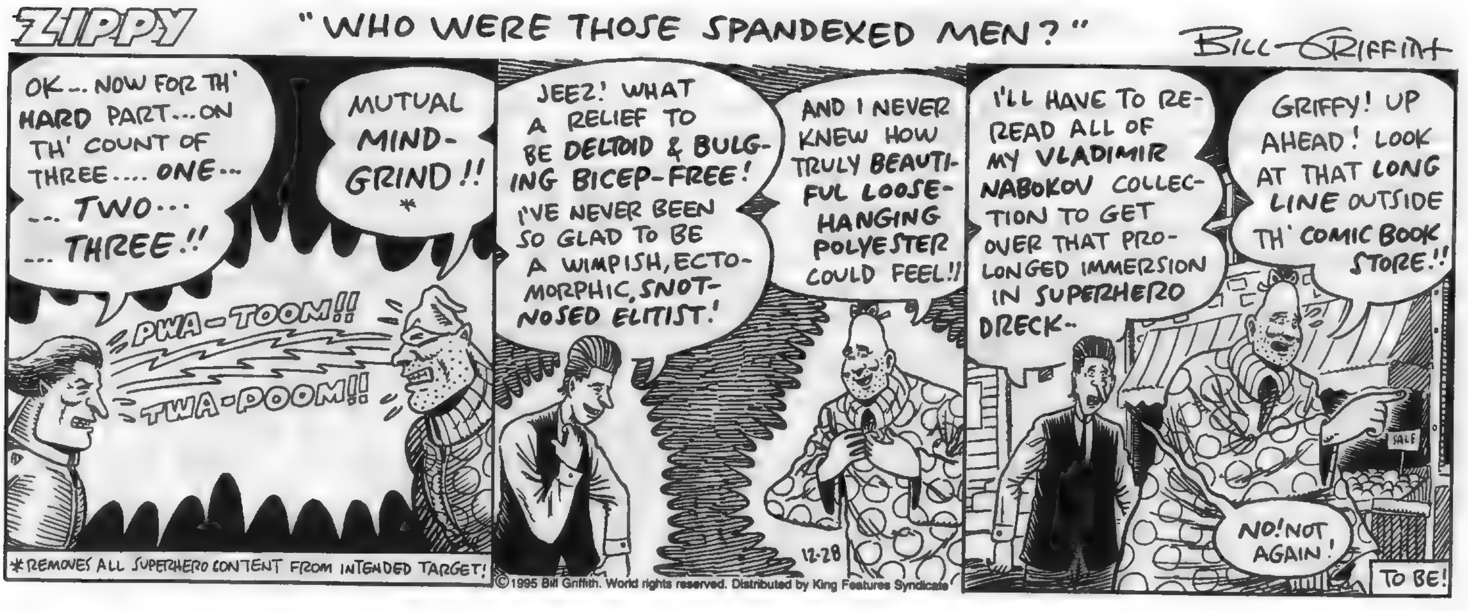
YOU KNOW WHAT WAS A COOL SERIES?? "CLASSICS ILLUSTRATED"! ..I'LL TRADE YOU A "HAMLET" FOR THIS "VIOLATOR" ACTION FIGURE..
OUR JOB IS DONE HERE, PINMAN!! WE ARE NO LONGER NEEDED!
WE'VE-- --SNIFF-- MADE TH' WORLD SAFE FOR "FAMILY CIRCUS"!
ARCHIE & VERONICA ARE ACTUALLY A SUBTLE CRITIQUE OF TH' MODERN CONDITION!
ANYONE GOT "PSYCHOANALYSIS" #4? I'LL GO TO $300!!
LITTLE LULU
MORE!


ZIPPY
" WHO WERE THOSE SPANDEXED MEN ? "
BILL GRIFFITH
OK... NOW FOR TH' HARD PART...ON TH' COUNT OF THREE.... ONE... ... TWO... ... THREE!!
MUTUAL MIND-GRIND!! *
PWA-TOOM!!
TWA-POOM!!
*REMOVES ALL SUPERHERO CONTENT FROM INTENDED TARGET!
JEEZ! WHAT A RELIEF TO BE DELTOID & BULGING BICEP-FREE! I'VE NEVER BEEN SO GLAD TO BE A WIMPISH, ECTOMORPHIC, SNOT-NOSED ELITIST!
AND I NEVER KNEW HOW TRULY BEAUTIFUL LOOSE-HANGING POLYESTER COULD FEEL!!
12-28
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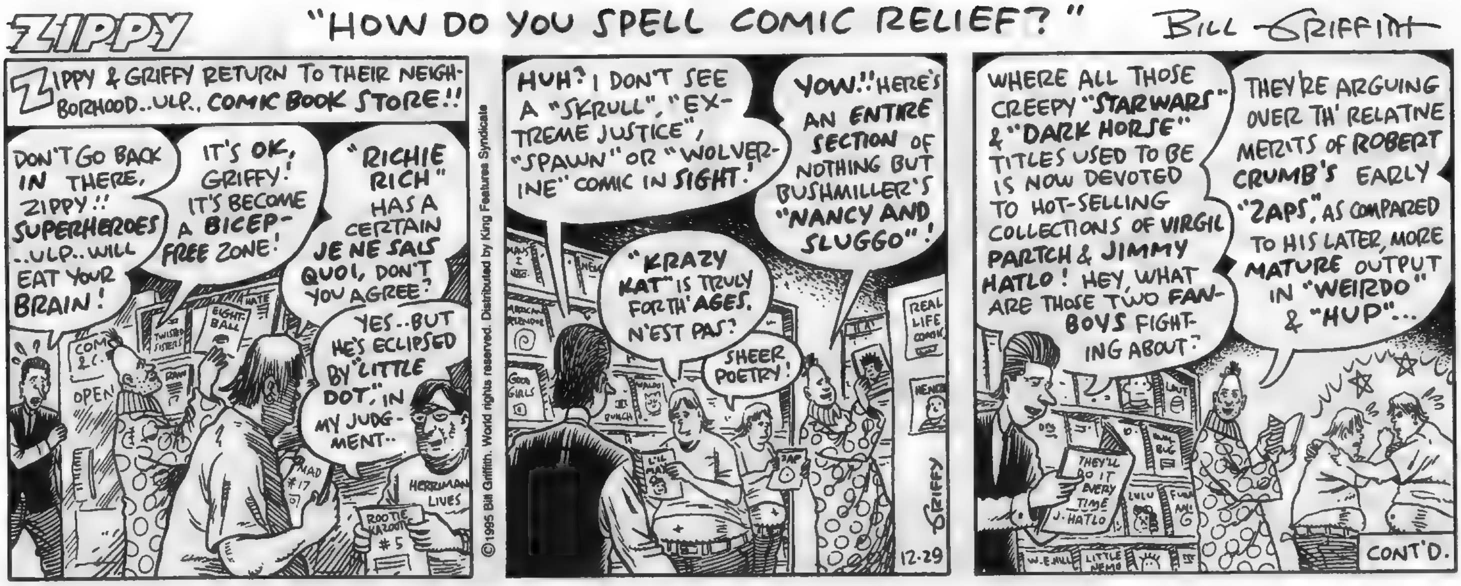
I'LL HAVE TO REREAD ALL OF MY VLADIMIR NABOKOV COLLECTION TO GET OVER THAT PROLONGED IMMERSION IN SUPERHERO DRECK--
GRIFFY! UP AHEAD! LOOK AT THAT LONG LINE OUTSIDE TH' COMIC BOOK STORE!!
SALE
NO! NOT AGAIN!
TO BE!


ZIPPY
"HOW DO YOU SPELL COMIC RELIEF?"
BILL GRIFFITH
ZIPPY & GRIFFY RETURN TO THEIR NEIGHBORHOOD..ULP.. COMIC BOOK STORE!!
DON'T GO BACK IN THERE, ZIPPY!! SUPERHEROES ..ULP.. WILL EAT YOUR BRAIN!
IT'S OK, GRIFFY! IT'S BECOME A BICEP-FREE ZONE!
"RICHIE RICH" HAS A CERTAIN JE NE SAIS QUOI, DON'T YOU AGREE?
YES..BUT HE'S ECLIPSED BY "LITTLE DOT," IN MY JUDGMENT..
HUH? I DON'T SEE A "SKRULL", "EXTREME JUSTICE", "SPAWN" OR "WOLVERINE" COMIC IN SIGHT!
YOW!! HERE'S AN ENTIRE SECTION OF NOTHING BUT BUSHMILLER'S "NANCY AND SLUGGO"!
"KRAZY KAT" IS TRULY FORTH' AGES, N'EST PAS?
SHEER POETRY!
WHERE ALL THOSE CREEPY "STAR WARS" & "DARK HORSE" TITLES USED TO BE IS NOW DEVOTED TO HOT-SELLING COLLECTIONS OF VIRGIL PARTCH & JIMMY HATLO! HEY, WHAT ARE THOSE TWO FANBOYS FIGHTING ABOUT?
THEY'RE ARGUING OVER TH' RELATIVE MERITS OF ROBERT CRUMB'S EARLY "ZAPS," AS COMPARED TO HIS LATER, MORE MATURE OUTPUT IN "WEIRDO" & "HUP"...
COMICS
OPEN
TWISTED SISTERS
EIGHT BALL
HATE
MAD #17
HERRIMAN LIVES
ROOTIE KAZOOTIE #5
REAL LIFE COMICS
THEY'LL DO IT EVERY TIME J. HATLO
LULU
LITTLE NEMO
W.E. HILL
GRIFFY
12-29
CONT'D.
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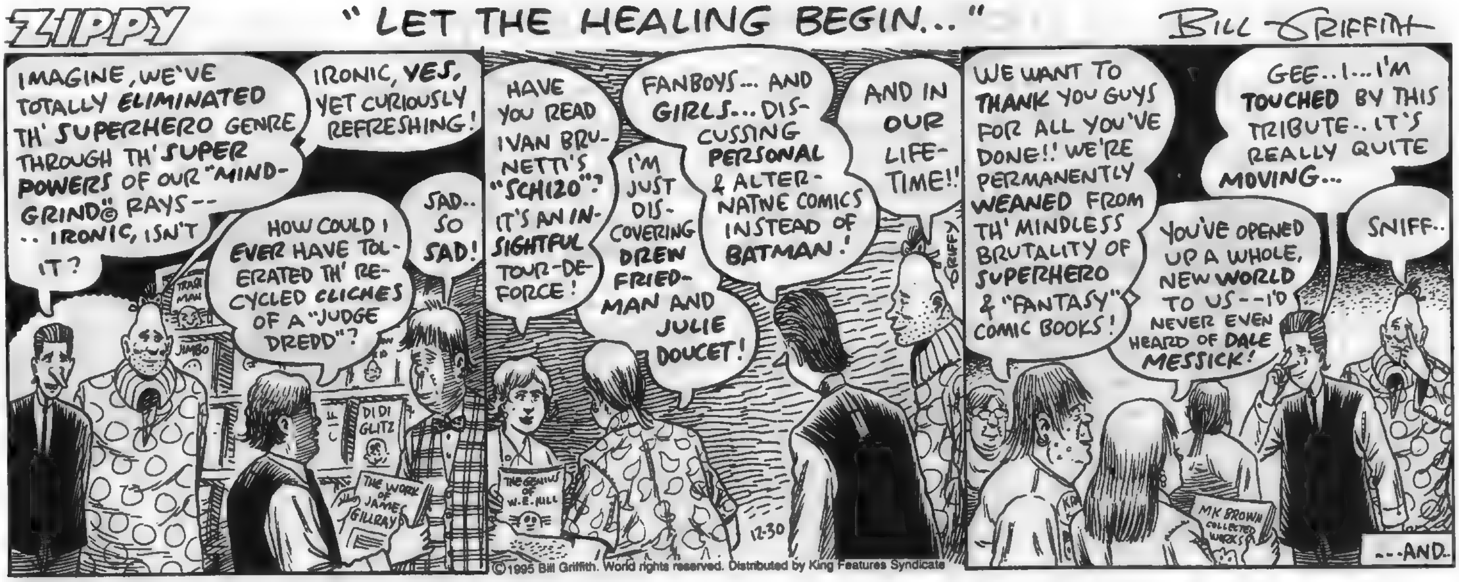
ZIPPY
"LET THE HEALING BEGIN..."
BILL GRIFFITH
IMAGINE, WE'VE TOTALLY ELIMINATED TH' SUPERHERO GENRE THROUGH TH' SUPER POWERS OF OUR "MIND-GRIND©" RAYS-- ..IRONIC, ISN'T IT?
IRONIC, YES, YET CURIOUSLY REFRESHING!
HOW COULD I EVER HAVE TOLERATED TH' RECYCLED CLICHES OF A "JUDGE DREDD"?
SAD.. SO SAD!
HAVE YOU READ IVAN BRUNETTI'S "SCHIZO"? IT'S AN INSIGHTFUL TOUR-DE-FORCE!
I'M JUST DISCOVERING DREW FRIEDMAN AND JULIE DOUCET!
FANBOYS... AND GIRLS... DISCUSSING PERSONAL & ALTERNATIVE COMICS INSTEAD OF BATMAN!
AND IN OUR LIFETIME!!
WE WANT TO THANK YOU GUYS FOR ALL YOU'VE DONE!! WE'RE PERMANENTLY WEANED FROM TH' MINDLESS BRUTALITY OF SUPERHERO & "FANTASY" COMIC BOOKS!
GEE..I...I'M TOUCHED BY THIS TRIBUTE.. IT'S REALLY QUITE MOVING...
YOU'VE OPENED UP A WHOLE NEW WORLD TO US--I'D NEVER EVEN HEARD OF DALE MESSICK!
SNIFF..
JIMBO
DIDI GLITZ
THE WORK OF JAMES GILLRAY
THE GENIUS OF W.E. HILL
MK BROWN COLLECTED WORKS
GRIFFY
12-30
---AND..
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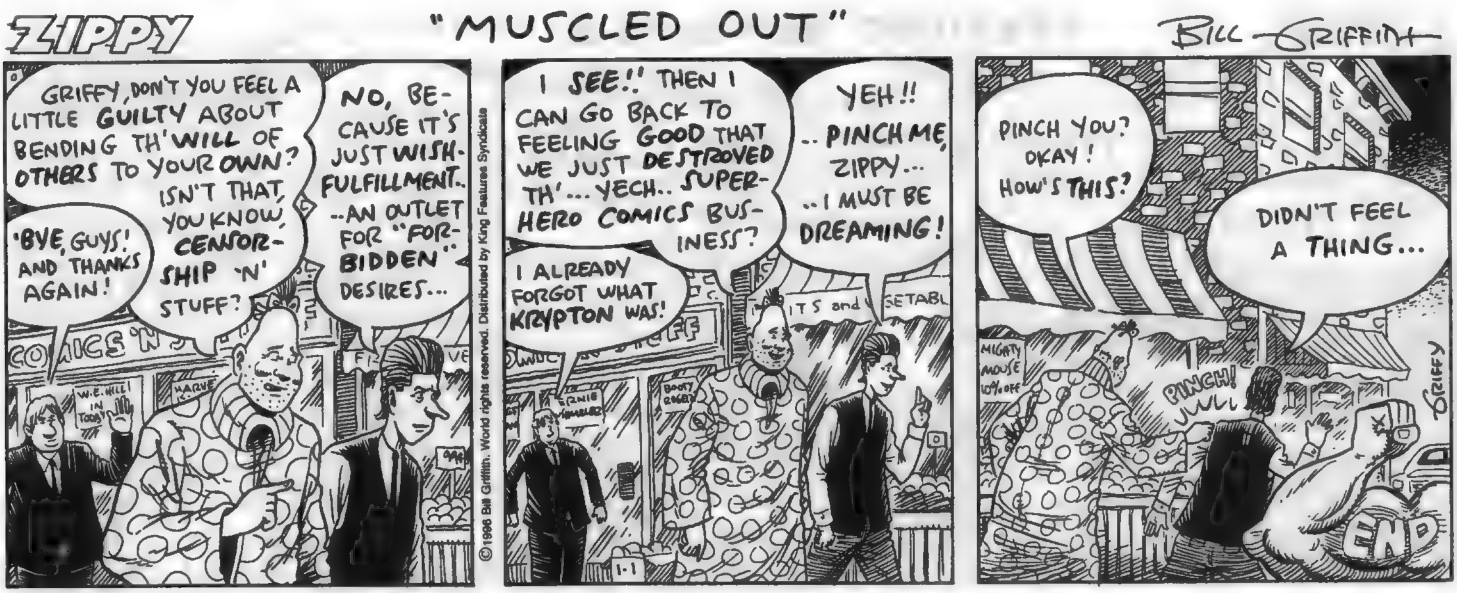
ZIPPY
"MUSCLED OUT"
BILL GRIFFITH
GRIFFY, DON'T YOU FEEL A LITTLE GUILTY ABOUT BENDING TH' WILL OF OTHERS TO YOUR OWN? ISN'T THAT, YOU KNOW, CENSORSHIP 'N' STUFF?
NO, BECAUSE IT'S JUST WISH-FULFILLMENT.. --AN OUTLET FOR "FORBIDDEN" DESIRES...
'BYE, GUYS! AND THANKS AGAIN!
COMICS 'N'
W.E. HILL IN TODAY
HARVEY
I SEE!! THEN I CAN GO BACK TO FEELING GOOD THAT WE JUST DESTROYED TH'... YECH.. SUPERHERO COMICS BUSINESS?
YEH!! ..PINCH ME, ZIPPY... ..I MUST BE DREAMING!
I ALREADY FORGOT WHAT KRYPTON WAS!
ERNIE BUSHMILLER
BOOTY
PINCH YOU? OKAY! HOW'S THIS?
DIDN'T FEEL A THING...
MIGHTY MOUSE 10% OFF
PINCH!
GRIFFY
END
1-1
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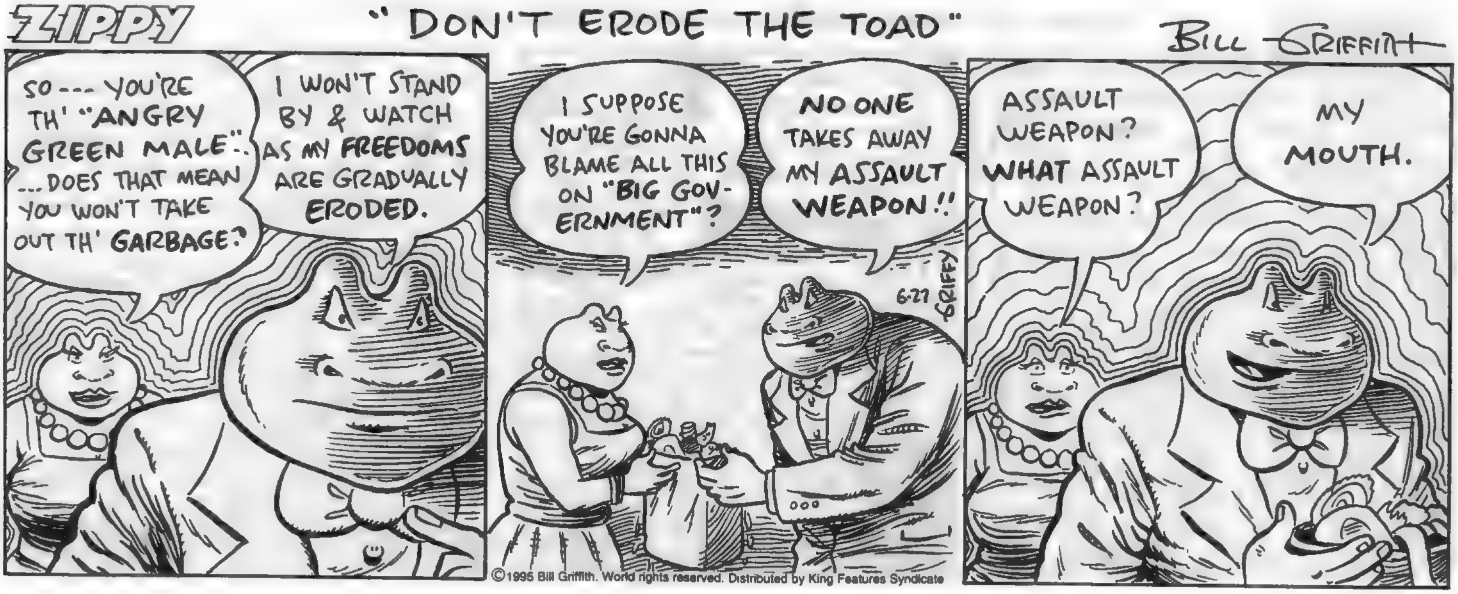
ZIPPY
"DON'T ERODE THE TOAD"
BILL GRIFFITH
SO--- YOU'RE TH' "ANGRY GREEN MALE"... ...DOES THAT MEAN YOU WON'T TAKE OUT TH' GARBAGE?
I WON'T STAND BY & WATCH AS MY FREEDOMS ARE GRADUALLY ERODED.
I SUPPOSE YOU'RE GONNA BLAME ALL THIS ON "BIG GOVERNMENT"?
NO ONE TAKES AWAY MY ASSAULT WEAPON!!
GRIFFY
6-27
ASSAULT WEAPON? WHAT ASSAULT WEAPON?
MY MOUTH.

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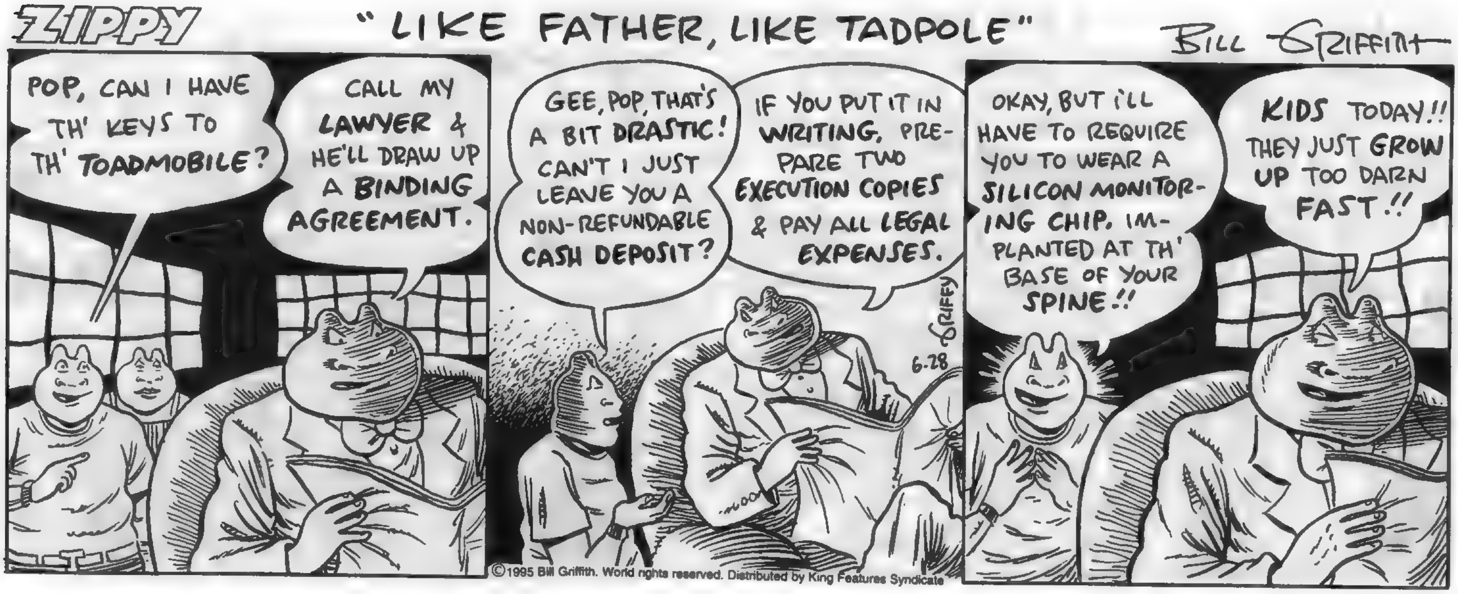
ZIPPY
"LIKE FATHER, LIKE TADPOLE"
BILL GRIFFITH
POP, CAN I HAVE TH' KEYS TO TH' TOADMOBILE?
CALL MY LAWYER & HE'LL DRAW UP A BINDING AGREEMENT.
GEE, POP, THAT'S A BIT DRASTIC! CAN'T I JUST LEAVE YOU A NON-REFUNDABLE CASH DEPOSIT?
IF YOU PUT IT IN WRITING, PREPARE TWO EXECUTION COPIES & PAY ALL LEGAL EXPENSES.
GRIFFY
6-28
OKAY, BUT I'LL HAVE TO REQUIRE YOU TO WEAR A SILICON MONITORING CHIP, IMPLANTED AT TH' BASE OF YOUR SPINE!!
KIDS TODAY!! THEY JUST GROW UP TOO DARN FAST!!

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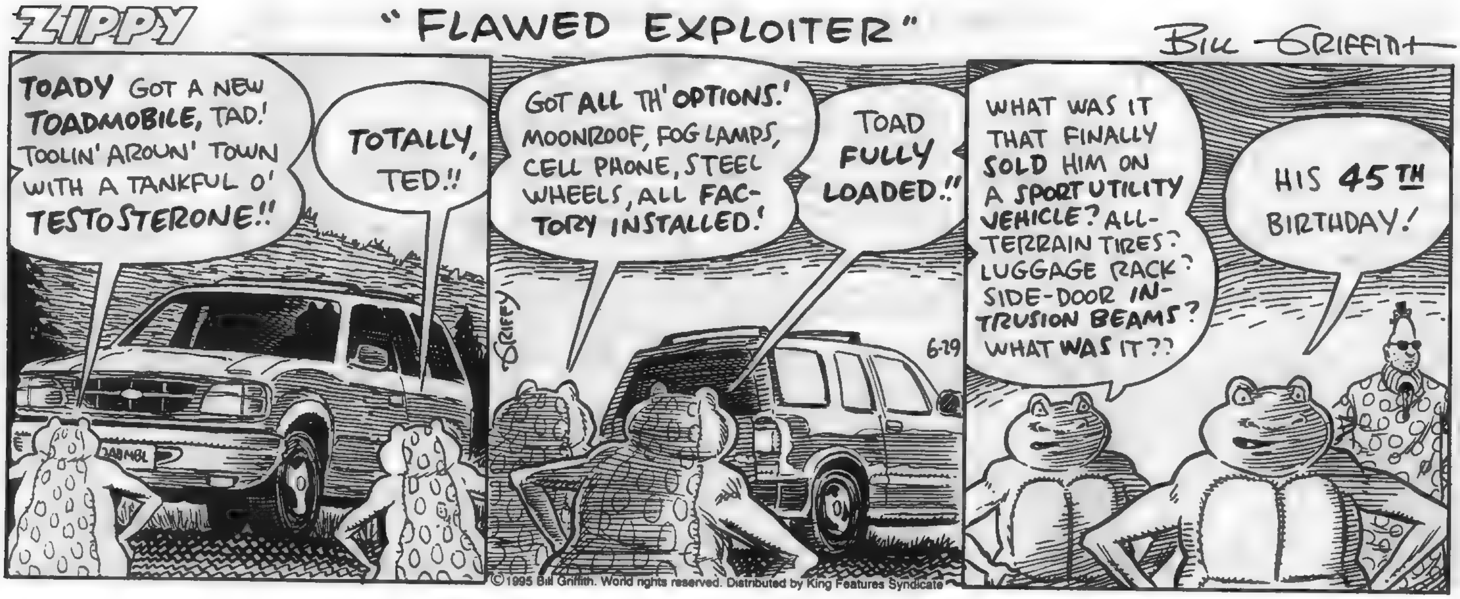
ZIPPY
"FLAWED EXPLOITER"
BILL GRIFFITH
TOADY GOT A NEW TOADMOBILE, TAD! TOOLIN' AROUN' TOWN WITH A TANKFUL O' TESTOSTERONE!!
TOTALLY, TED!!
TOADMBL
GOT ALL TH' OPTIONS! MOONROOF, FOG LAMPS, CELL PHONE, STEEL WHEELS, ALL FACTORY INSTALLED!
TOAD FULLY LOADED!!
GRIFFY
6-29
WHAT WAS IT THAT FINALLY SOLD HIM ON A SPORT UTILITY VEHICLE? ALL-TERRAIN TIRES? LUGGAGE RACK? SIDE-DOOR INTRUSION BEAMS? WHAT WAS IT??
HIS 45TH BIRTHDAY!

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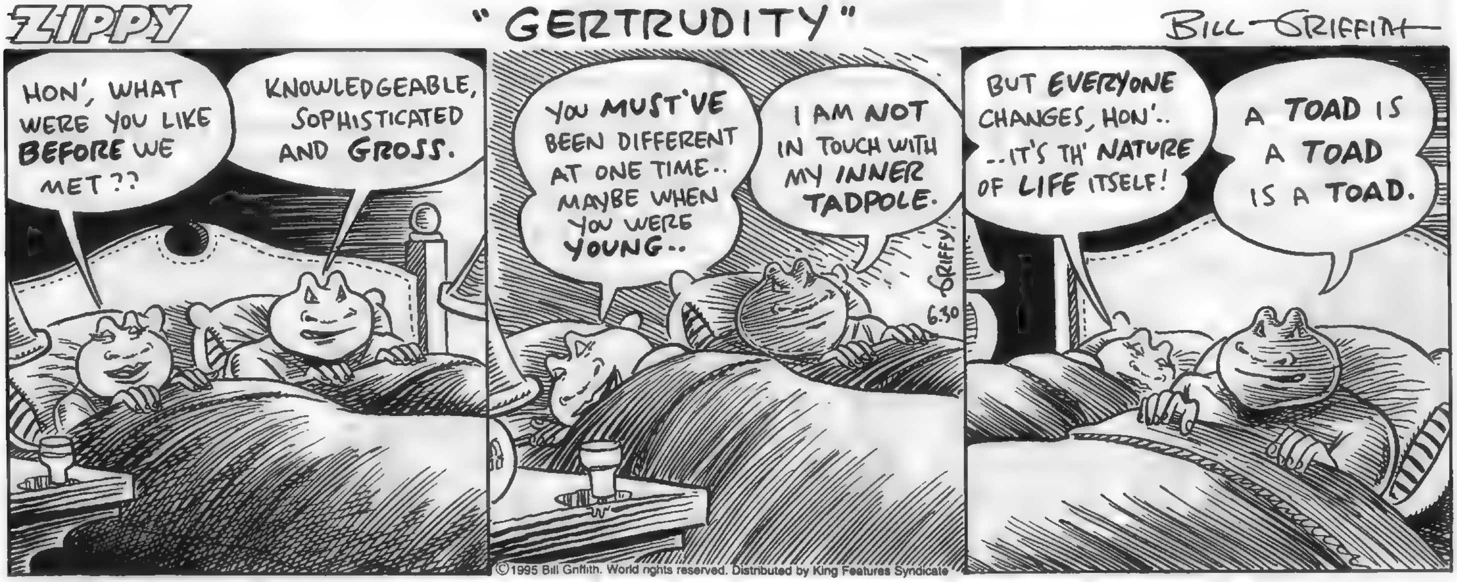
ZIPPY
"GERTRUDITY"
BILL GRIFFITH
HON', WHAT WERE YOU LIKE BEFORE WE MET??
KNOWLEDGEABLE, SOPHISTICATED AND GROSS.
YOU MUST'VE BEEN DIFFERENT AT ONE TIME.. MAYBE WHEN YOU WERE YOUNG..
I AM NOT IN TOUCH WITH MY INNER TADPOLE.
GRIFFY 6-30
BUT EVERYONE CHANGES, HON'.. ..IT'S TH' NATURE OF LIFE ITSELF!
A TOAD IS A TOAD IS A TOAD.
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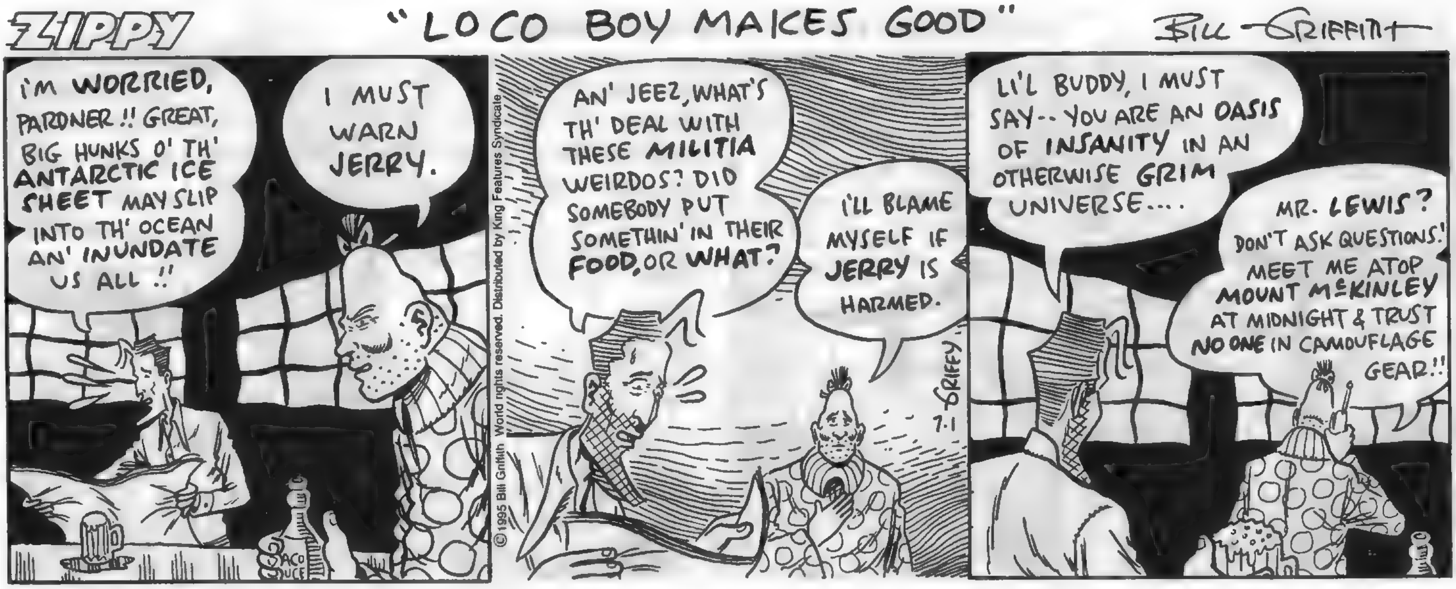
ZIPPY
"LOCO BOY MAKES GOOD"
BILL GRIFFITH
I'M WORRIED, PARDNER!! GREAT, BIG HUNKS O' TH' ANTARCTIC ICE SHEET MAY SLIP INTO TH' OCEAN AN' INUNDATE US ALL!!
I MUST WARN JERRY.
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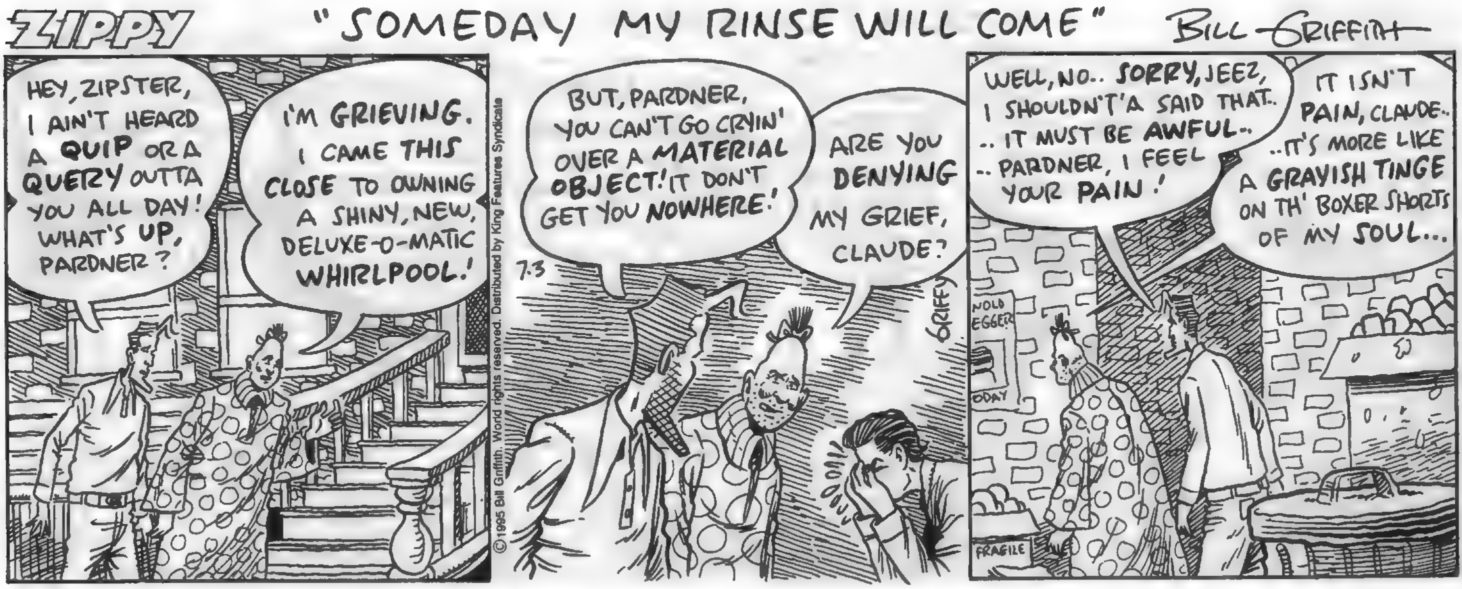
AN' JEEZ, WHAT'S TH' DEAL WITH THESE MILITIA WEIRDOS? DID SOMEBODY PUT SOMETHIN' IN THEIR FOOD, OR WHAT?
I'LL BLAME MYSELF IF JERRY IS HARMED.
GRIFFY 7-1
LI'L BUDDY, I MUST SAY-- YOU ARE AN OASIS OF INSANITY IN AN OTHERWISE GRIM UNIVERSE....
MR. LEWIS? DON'T ASK QUESTIONS! MEET ME ATOP MOUNT McKINLEY AT MIDNIGHT & TRUST NO ONE IN CAMOUFLAGE GEAR!!


ZIPPY
"SOMEDAY MY RINSE WILL COME"
BILL GRIFFITH
HEY, ZIPSTER, I AIN'T HEARD A QUIP OR A QUERY OUTTA YOU ALL DAY! WHAT'S UP, PARDNER?
I'M GRIEVING. I CAME THIS CLOSE TO OWNING A SHINY, NEW, DELUXE-O-MATIC WHIRLPOOL!
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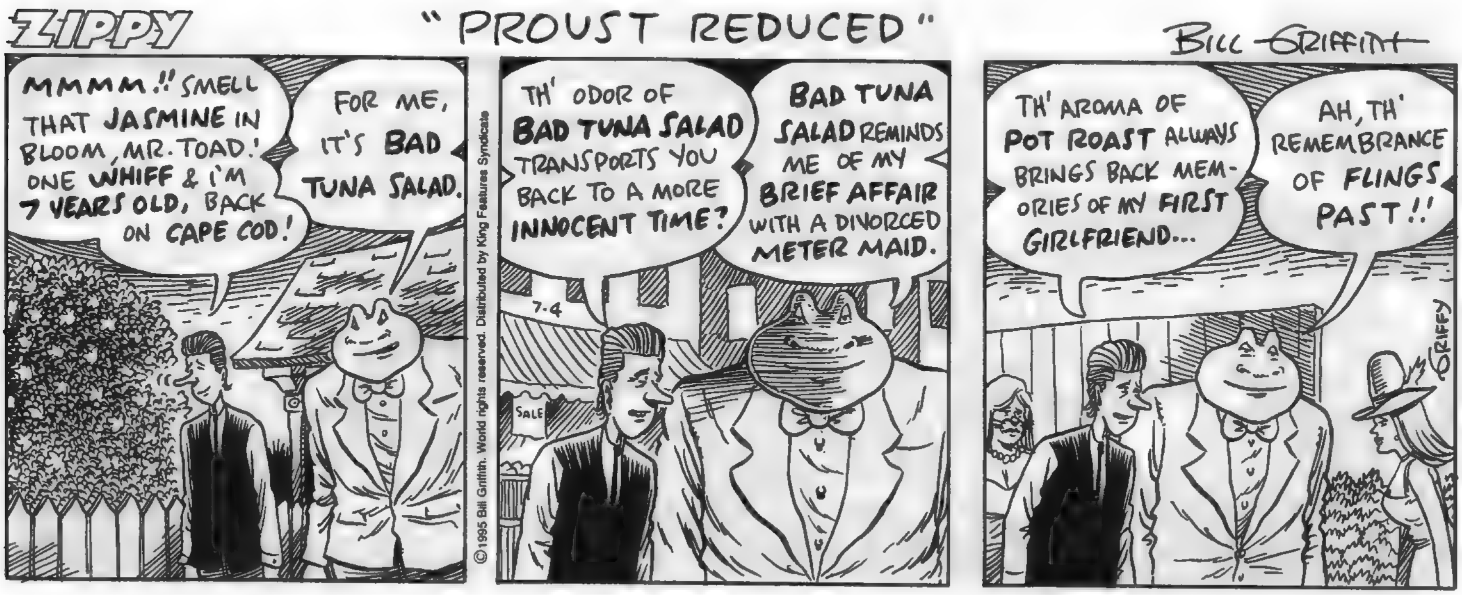
7-3
BUT, PARDNER, YOU CAN'T GO CRYIN' OVER A MATERIAL OBJECT! IT DON'T GET YOU NOWHERE!
ARE YOU DENYING MY GRIEF, CLAUDE?
GRIFFY
WELL, NO.. SORRY, JEEZ, I SHOULDN'T'A SAID THAT.. ..IT MUST BE AWFUL.. ..PARDNER, I FEEL YOUR PAIN!
IT ISN'T PAIN, CLAUDE.. ..IT'S MORE LIKE A GRAYISH TINGE ON TH' BOXER SHORTS OF MY SOUL...
FRAGILE


ZIPPY
"PROUST REDUCED"
BILL GRIFFITH
MMMM!! SMELL THAT JASMINE IN BLOOM, MR. TOAD! ONE WHIFF & I'M 7 YEARS OLD, BACK ON CAPE COD!
FOR ME, IT'S BAD TUNA SALAD.
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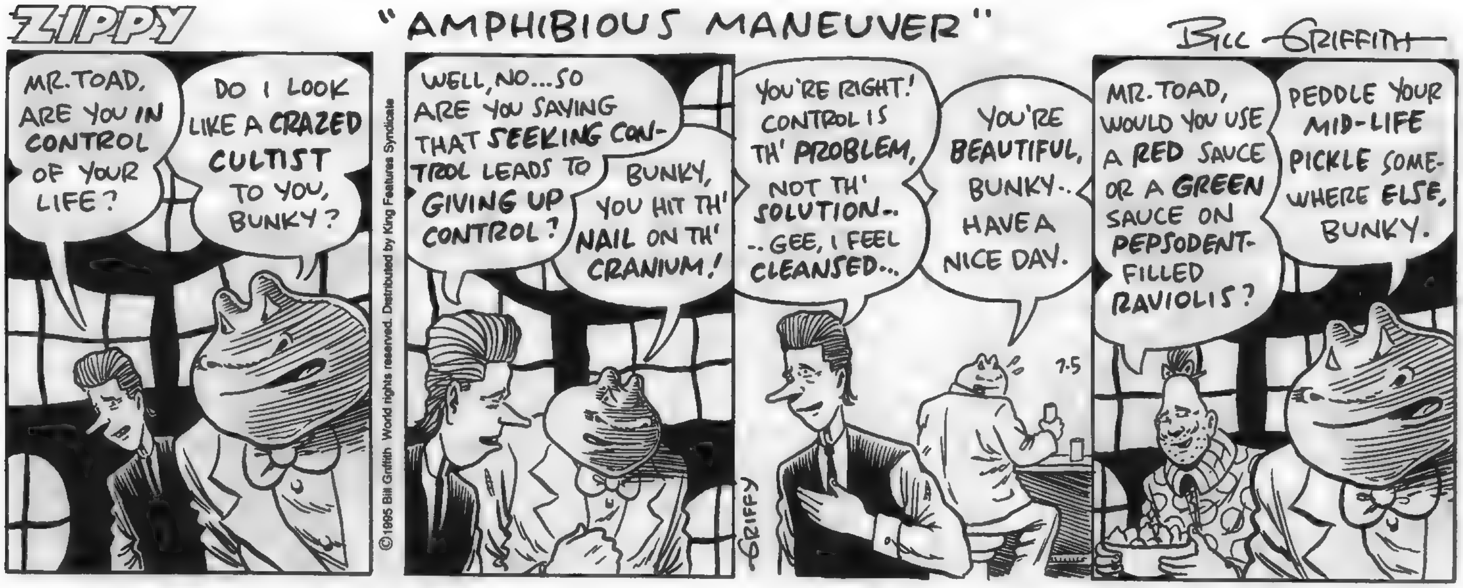
TH' ODOR OF BAD TUNA SALAD TRANSPORTS YOU BACK TO A MORE INNOCENT TIME?
BAD TUNA SALAD REMINDS ME OF MY BRIEF AFFAIR WITH A DIVORCED METER MAID.
7-4
SALE
TH' AROMA OF POT ROAST ALWAYS BRINGS BACK MEMORIES OF MY FIRST GIRLFRIEND...
AH, TH' REMEMBRANCE OF FLINGS PAST!!
GRIFFY


ZIPPY
"AMPHIBIOUS MANEUVER"
BILL GRIFFITH
MR. TOAD, ARE YOU IN CONTROL OF YOUR LIFE?
DO I LOOK LIKE A CRAZED CULTIST TO YOU, BUNKY?
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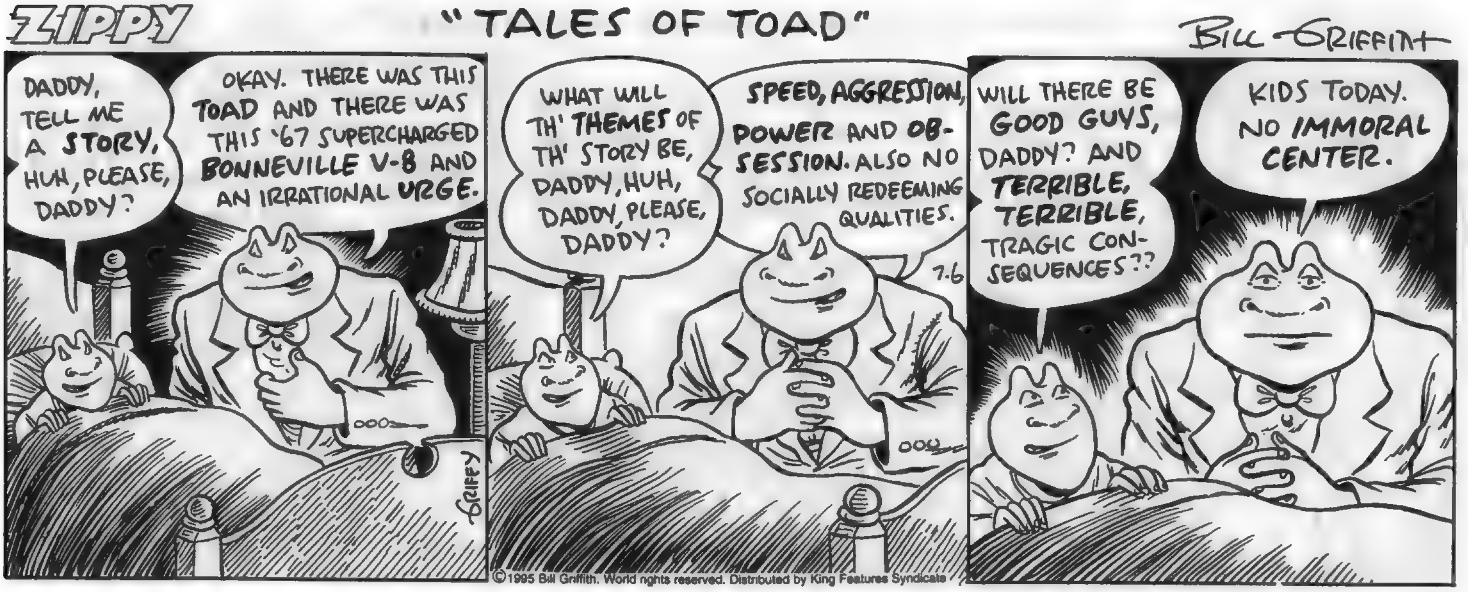
WELL, NO... SO ARE YOU SAYING THAT SEEKING CONTROL LEADS TO GIVING UP CONTROL?
BUNKY, YOU HIT TH' NAIL ON TH' CRANIUM!
GRIFFY
YOU'RE RIGHT! CONTROL IS TH' PROBLEM, NOT TH' SOLUTION.. ..GEE, I FEEL CLEANSED...
YOU'RE BEAUTIFUL, BUNKY.. HAVE A NICE DAY.
7-5
MR. TOAD, WOULD YOU USE A RED SAUCE OR A GREEN SAUCE ON PEPSODENT-FILLED RAVIOLIS?
PEDDLE YOUR MID-LIFE PICKLE SOMEWHERE ELSE, BUNKY.


ZIPPY
"TALES OF TOAD"
BILL GRIFFITH
DADDY, TELL ME A STORY, HUH, PLEASE, DADDY?
OKAY. THERE WAS THIS TOAD AND THERE WAS THIS '67 SUPERCHARGED BONNEVILLE V-8 AND AN IRRATIONAL URGE.
GRIFFY
WHAT WILL TH' THEMES OF TH' STORY BE, DADDY, HUH, DADDY, PLEASE, DADDY?
SPEED, AGGRESSION, POWER AND OBSESSION. ALSO NO SOCIALLY REDEEMING QUALITIES.
7-6
WILL THERE BE GOOD GUYS, DADDY? AND TERRIBLE, TERRIBLE, TRAGIC CONSEQUENCES??
KIDS TODAY. NO IMMORAL CENTER.
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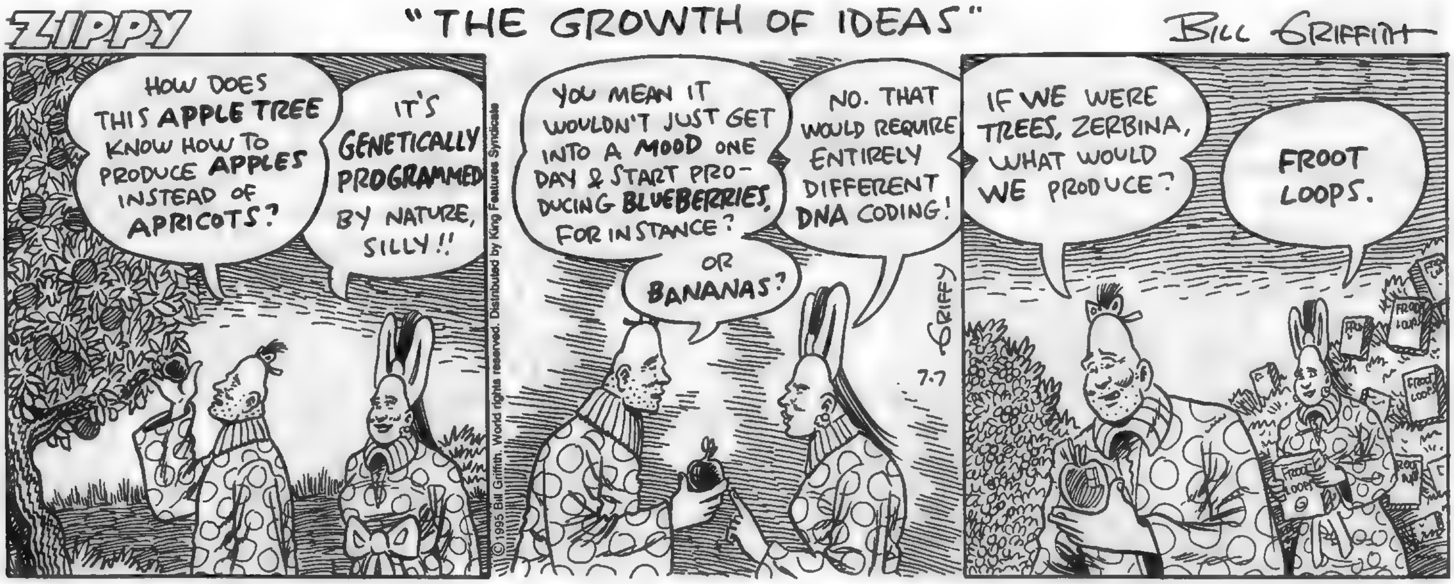
ZIPPY
"THE GROWTH OF IDEAS"
BILL GRIFFITH
HOW DOES THIS APPLE TREE KNOW HOW TO PRODUCE APPLES INSTEAD OF APRICOTS?
IT'S GENETICALLY PROGRAMMED BY NATURE, SILLY!!
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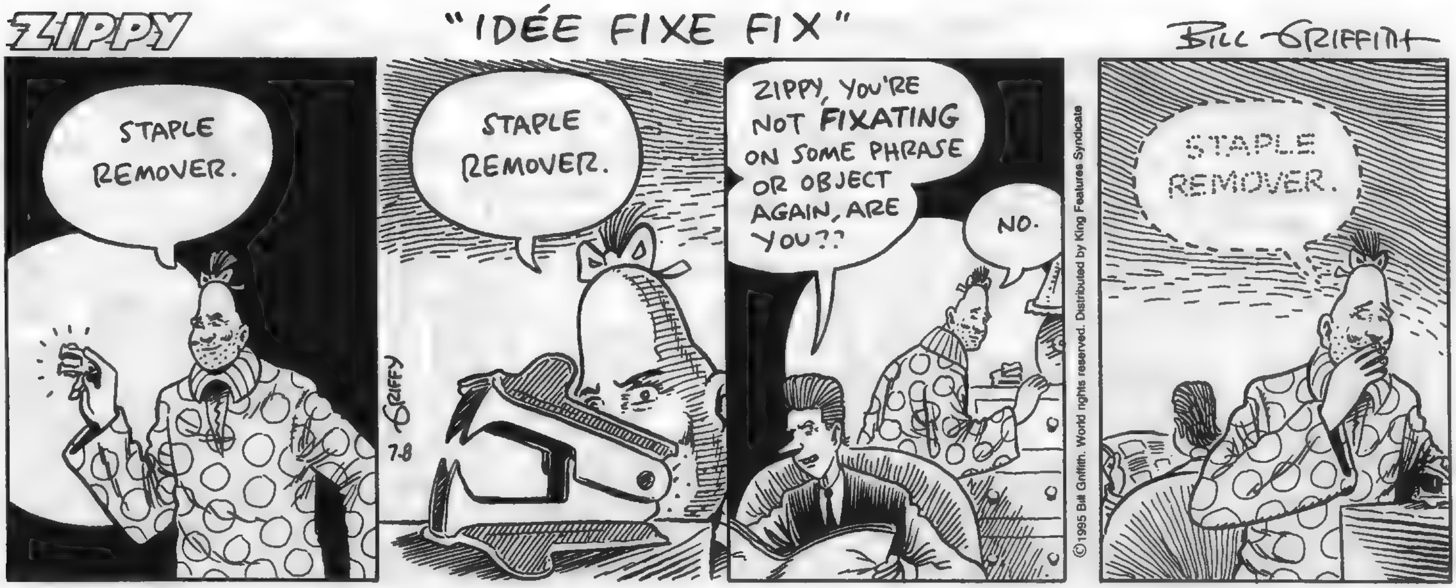
YOU MEAN IT WOULDN'T JUST GET INTO A MOOD ONE DAY & START PRODUCING BLUEBERRIES, FOR INSTANCE?
OR BANANAS?
NO. THAT WOULD REQUIRE ENTIRELY DIFFERENT DNA CODING!
GRIFFY 7-7
IF WE WERE TREES, ZERBINA, WHAT WOULD WE PRODUCE?
FROOT LOOPS.


ZIPPY
"IDÉE FIXE FIX"
BILL GRIFFITH
STAPLE REMOVER.
STAPLE REMOVER.
GRIFFY 7-8
ZIPPY, YOU'RE NOT FIXATING ON SOME PHRASE OR OBJECT AGAIN, ARE YOU??
NO.
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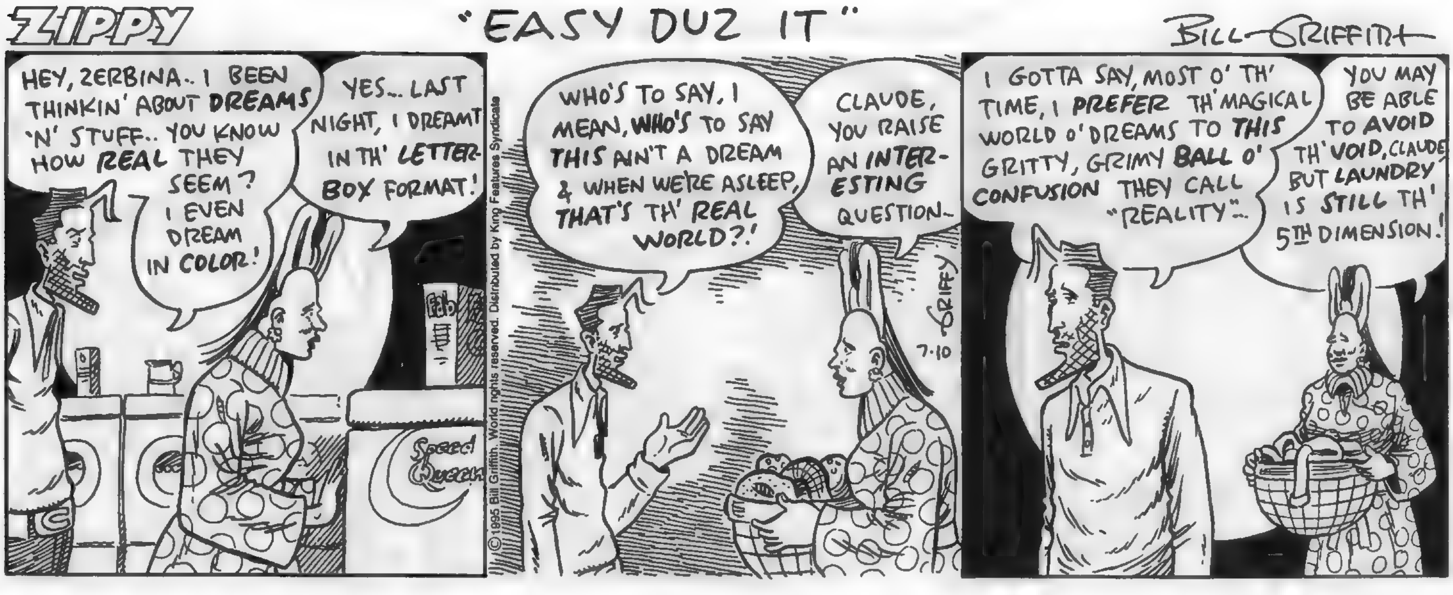
STAPLE REMOVER.


ZIPPY
"EASY DUZ IT"
BILL GRIFFITH
HEY, ZERBINA.. I BEEN THINKIN' ABOUT DREAMS 'N' STUFF.. YOU KNOW HOW REAL THEY SEEM? I EVEN DREAM IN COLOR!
YES... LAST NIGHT, I DREAMT IN TH' LETTER-BOX FORMAT!
Speed Queen
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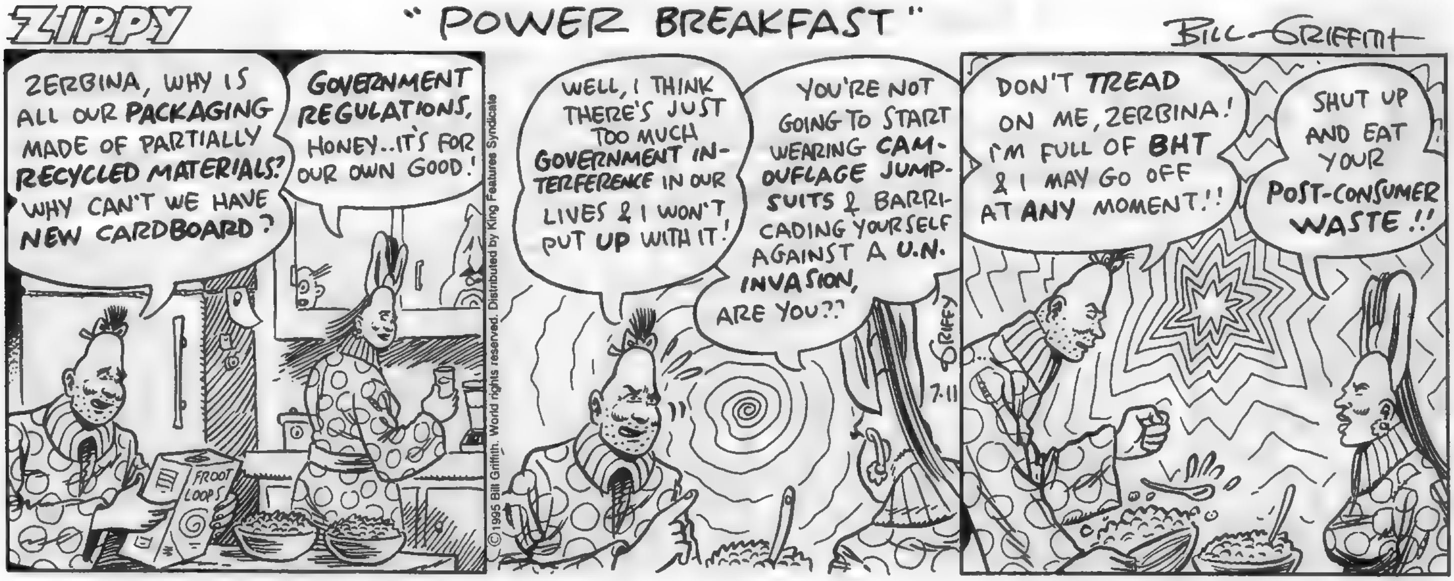
WHO'S TO SAY, I MEAN, WHO'S TO SAY THIS AIN'T A DREAM & WHEN WE'RE ASLEEP, THAT'S TH' REAL WORLD?!
CLAUDE, YOU RAISE AN INTERESTING QUESTION..
GRIFFY 7-10
I GOTTA SAY, MOST O' TH' TIME, I PREFER TH' MAGICAL WORLD O' DREAMS TO THIS GRITTY, GRIMY BALL O' CONFUSION THEY CALL "REALITY"..
YOU MAY BE ABLE TO AVOID TH' VOID, CLAUDE, BUT LAUNDRY IS STILL TH' 5TH DIMENSION!


ZIPPY
"POWER BREAKFAST"
BILL GRIFFITH
ZERBINA, WHY IS ALL OUR PACKAGING MADE OF PARTIALLY RECYCLED MATERIALS? WHY CAN'T WE HAVE NEW CARDBOARD?
GOVERNMENT REGULATIONS, HONEY.. IT'S FOR OUR OWN GOOD!
FROOT LOOPS
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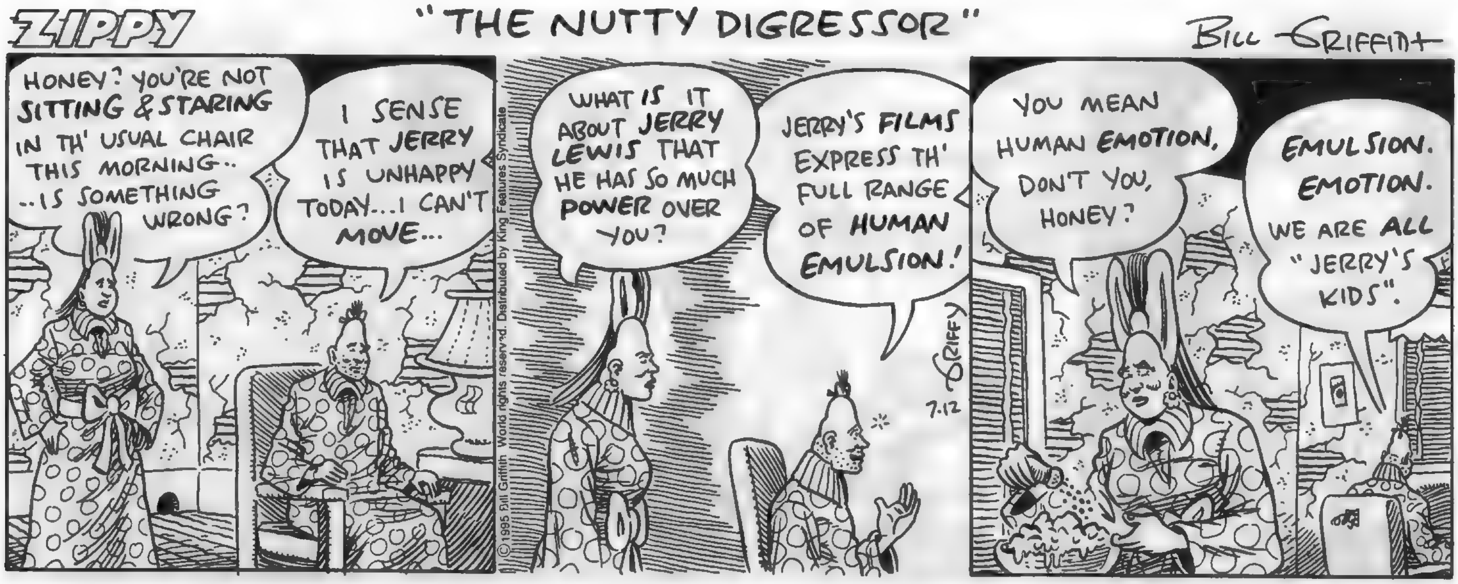
WELL, I THINK THERE'S JUST TOO MUCH GOVERNMENT INTERFERENCE IN OUR LIVES & I WON'T PUT UP WITH IT!
YOU'RE NOT GOING TO START WEARING CAMOUFLAGE JUMP-SUITS & BARRICADING YOURSELF AGAINST A U.N. INVASION, ARE YOU??
GRIFFY
7-11
DON'T TREAD ON ME, ZERBINA! I'M FULL OF BHT & I MAY GO OFF AT ANY MOMENT!!
SHUT UP AND EAT YOUR POST-CONSUMER WASTE!!


ZIPPY
"THE NUTTY DIGRESSOR"
BILL GRIFFITH
HONEY? YOU'RE NOT SITTING & STARING IN TH' USUAL CHAIR THIS MORNING.. ..IS SOMETHING WRONG?
I SENSE THAT JERRY IS UNHAPPY TODAY...I CAN'T MOVE...
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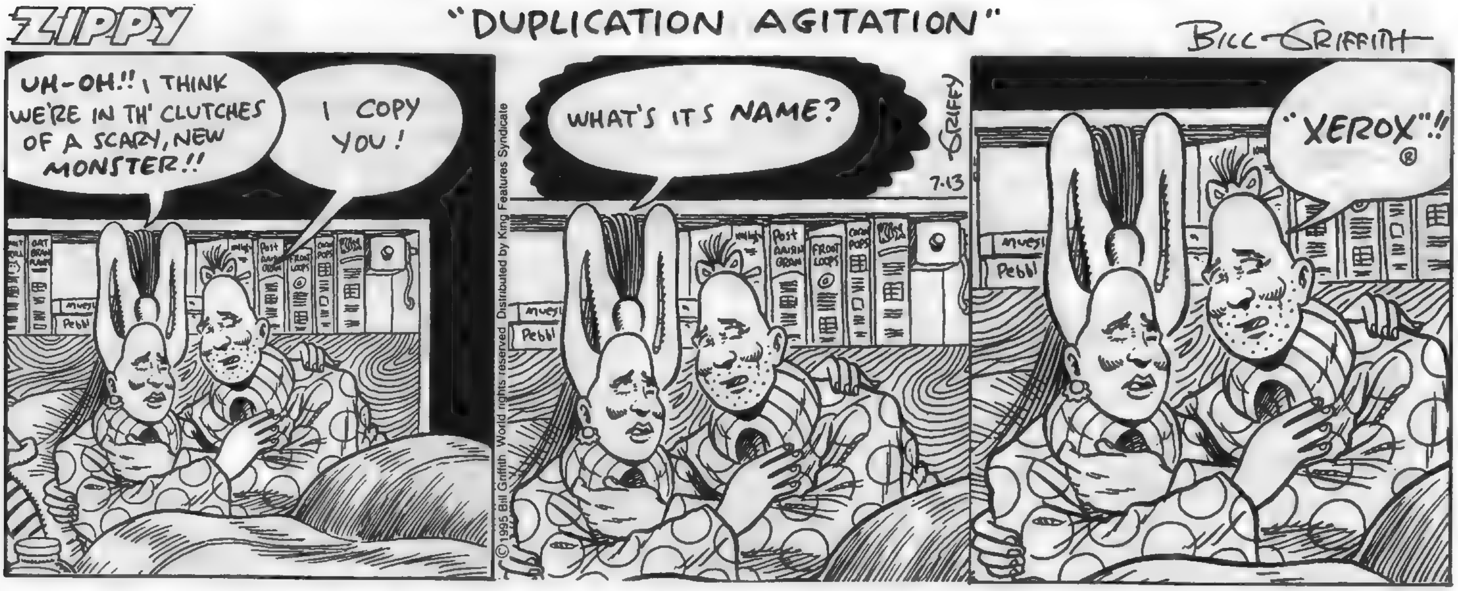
WHAT IS IT ABOUT JERRY LEWIS THAT HE HAS SO MUCH POWER OVER YOU?
JERRY'S FILMS EXPRESS TH' FULL RANGE OF HUMAN EMULSION!
GRIFFY
7-12
YOU MEAN HUMAN EMOTION, DON'T YOU, HONEY?
EMULSION. EMOTION. WE ARE ALL "JERRY'S KIDS".


ZIPPY
"DUPLICATION AGITATION"
BILL GRIFFITH
UH-OH!! I THINK WE'RE IN TH' CLUTCHES OF A SCARY, NEW MONSTER!!
I COPY YOU!
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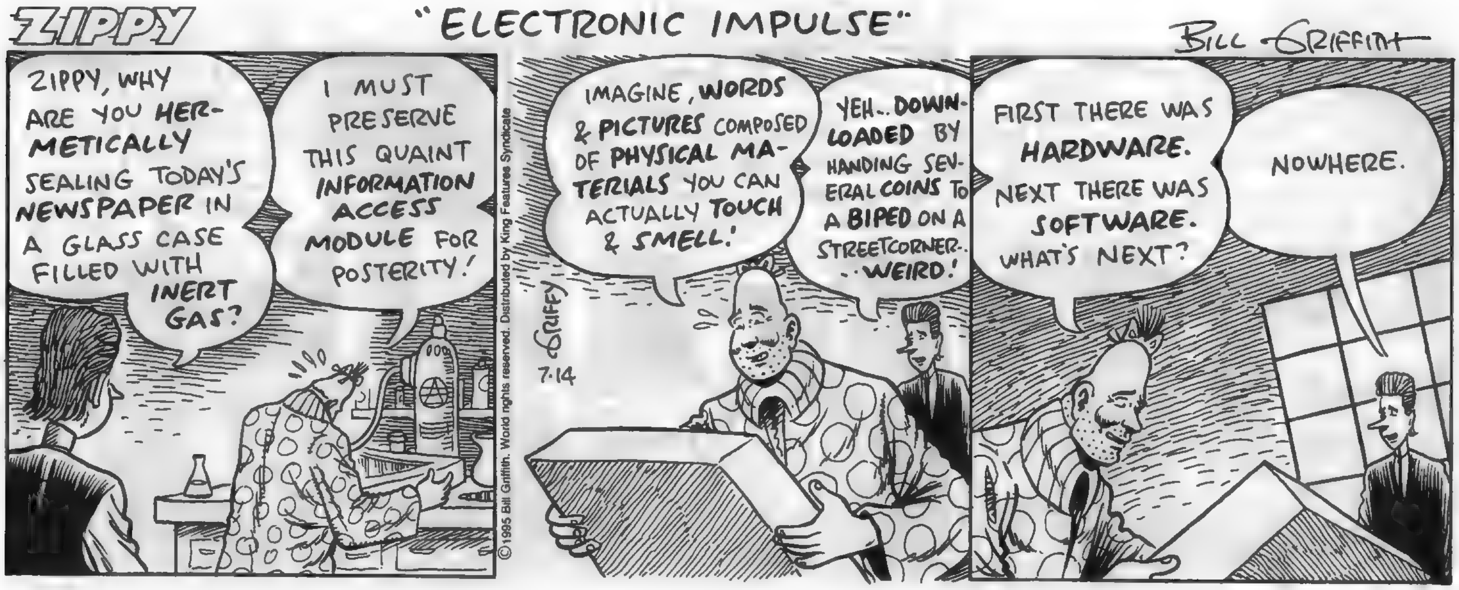
WHAT'S ITS NAME?
GRIFFY
7-13
"XEROX"!! ®


ZIPPY
"ELECTRONIC IMPULSE"
BILL GRIFFITH
ZIPPY, WHY ARE YOU HERMETICALLY SEALING TODAY'S NEWSPAPER IN A GLASS CASE FILLED WITH INERT GAS?
I MUST PRESERVE THIS QUAINT INFORMATION ACCESS MODULE FOR POSTERITY!
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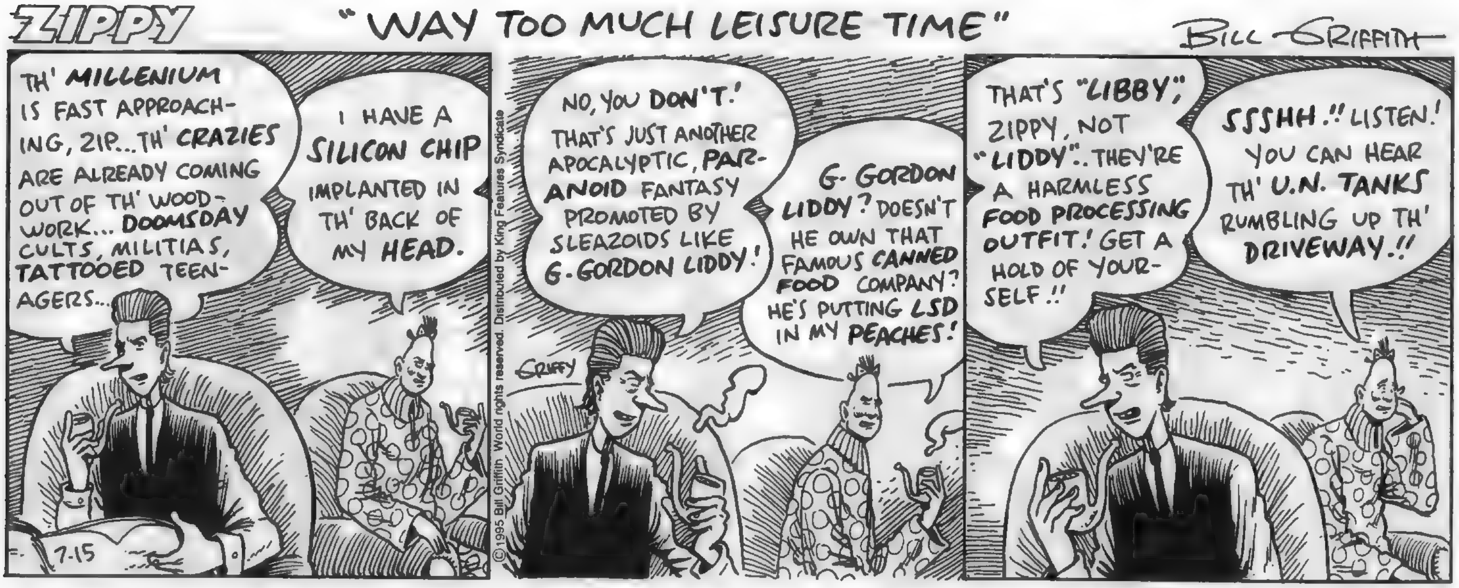
GRIFFY 7-14
IMAGINE, WORDS & PICTURES COMPOSED OF PHYSICAL MATERIALS YOU CAN ACTUALLY TOUCH & SMELL!
YEH.. DOWNLOADED BY HANDING SEVERAL COINS TO A BIPED ON A STREETCORNER.. ..WEIRD!
FIRST THERE WAS HARDWARE. NEXT THERE WAS SOFTWARE. WHAT'S NEXT?
NOWHERE.


ZIPPY
"WAY TOO MUCH LEISURE TIME"
BILL GRIFFITH
TH' MILLENIUM IS FAST APPROACHING, ZIP... TH' CRAZIES ARE ALREADY COMING OUT OF TH' WOODWORK... DOOMSDAY CULTS, MILITIAS, TATTOOED TEENAGERS...
I HAVE A SILICON CHIP IMPLANTED IN TH' BACK OF MY HEAD.
7-15
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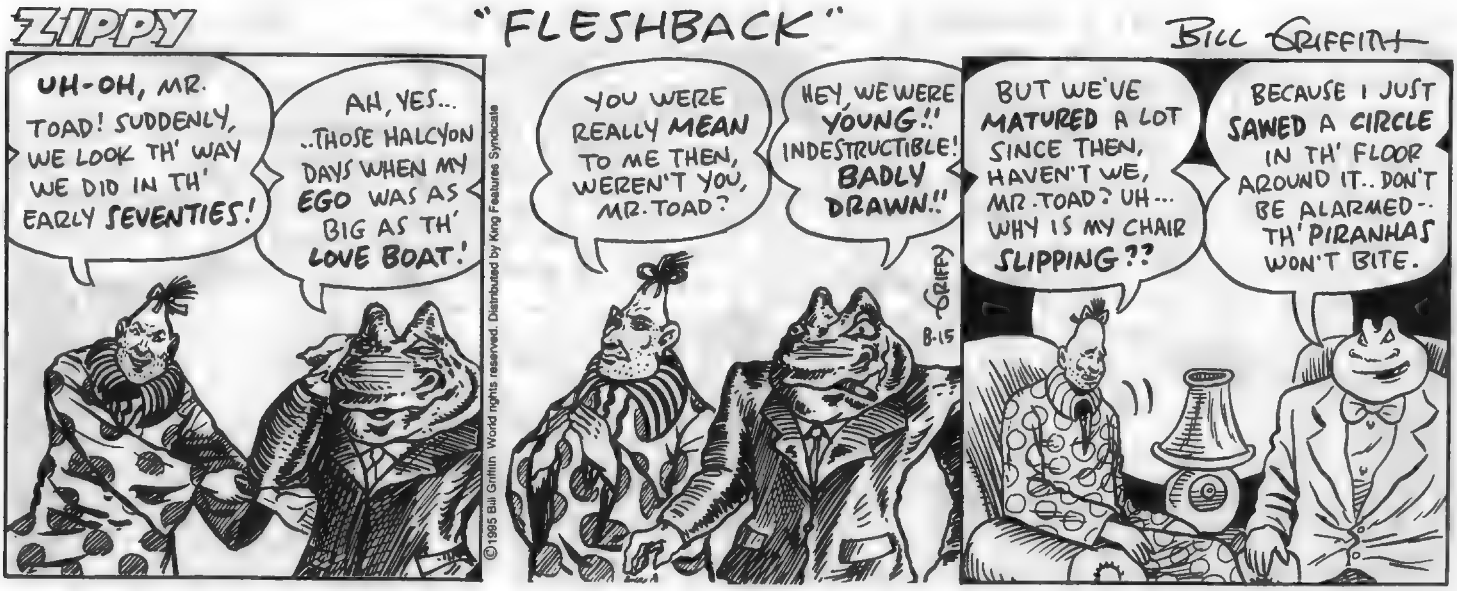
NO, YOU DON'T! THAT'S JUST ANOTHER APOCALYPTIC, PARANOID FANTASY PROMOTED BY SLEAZOIDS LIKE G. GORDON LIDDY!
G. GORDON LIDDY? DOESN'T HE OWN THAT FAMOUS CANNED FOOD COMPANY? HE'S PUTTING LSD IN MY PEACHES!
GRIFFY
THAT'S "LIBBY", ZIPPY, NOT "LIDDY".. THEY'RE A HARMLESS FOOD PROCESSING OUTFIT! GET A HOLD OF YOURSELF!!
SSSHH!! LISTEN! YOU CAN HEAR TH' U.N. TANKS RUMBLING UP TH' DRIVEWAY!!


ZIPPY
"FLESHBACK"
BILL GRIFFITH
UH-OH, MR. TOAD! SUDDENLY, WE LOOK TH' WAY WE DID IN TH' EARLY SEVENTIES!
AH, YES... ..THOSE HALCYON DAYS WHEN MY EGO WAS AS BIG AS TH' LOVE BOAT!
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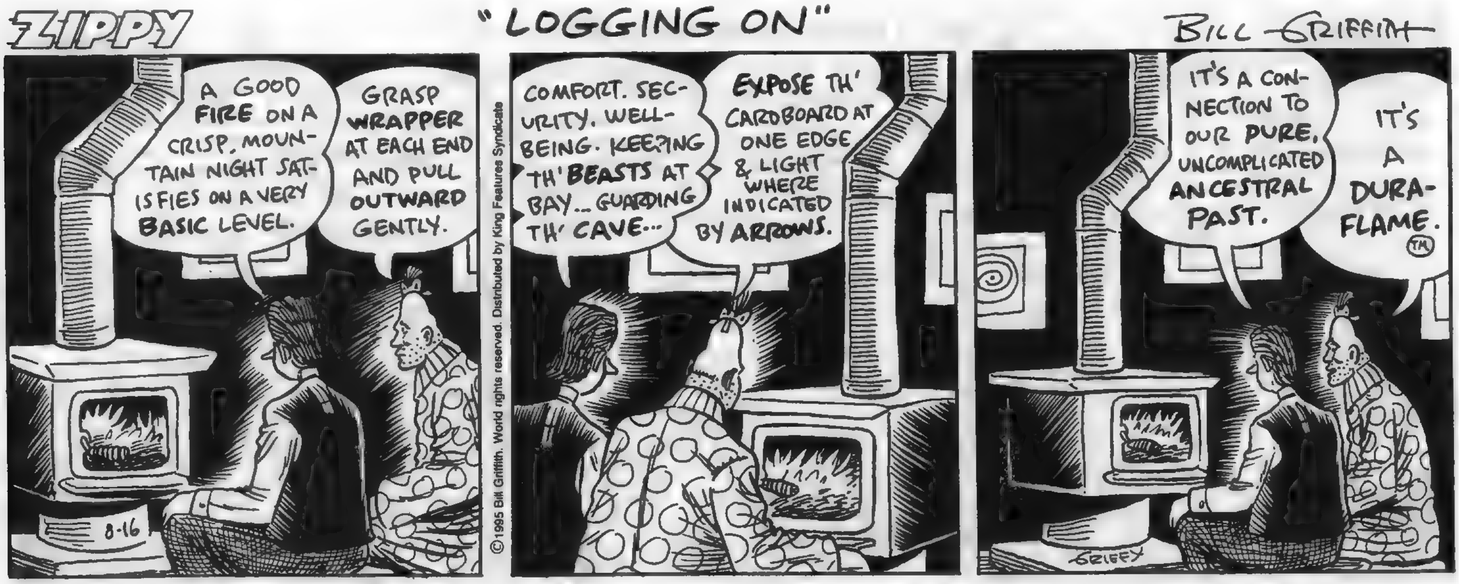
YOU WERE REALLY MEAN TO ME THEN, WEREN'T YOU, MR. TOAD?
HEY, WE WERE YOUNG!! INDESTRUCTIBLE! BADLY DRAWN!!
GRIFFY 8-15
BUT WE'VE MATURED A LOT SINCE THEN, HAVEN'T WE, MR. TOAD? UH... WHY IS MY CHAIR SLIPPING??
BECAUSE I JUST SAWED A CIRCLE IN TH' FLOOR AROUND IT.. DON'T BE ALARMED.. TH' PIRANHAS WON'T BITE.


ZIPPY
"LOGGING ON"
BILL GRIFFITH
A GOOD FIRE ON A CRISP, MOUNTAIN NIGHT SATISFIES ON A VERY BASIC LEVEL.
GRASP WRAPPER AT EACH END AND PULL OUTWARD GENTLY.
8-16
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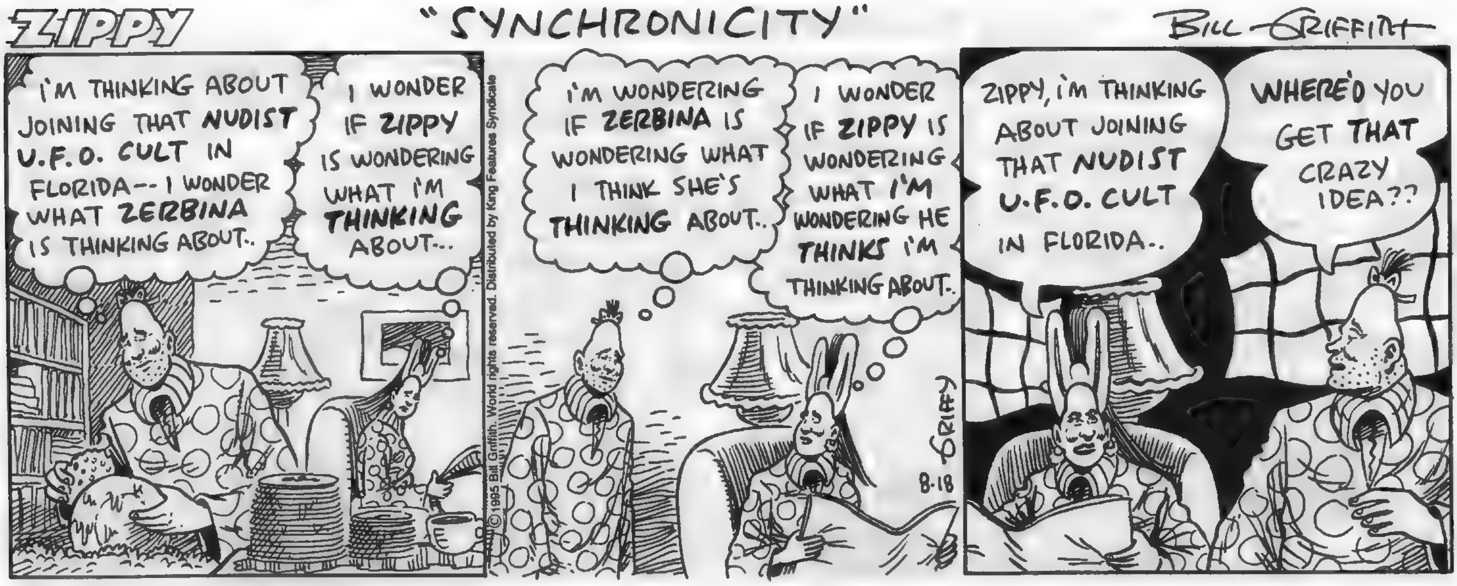
COMFORT. SECURITY. WELL-BEING. KEEPING TH' BEASTS AT BAY... GUARDING TH' CAVE...
EXPOSE TH' CARDBOARD AT ONE EDGE & LIGHT WHERE INDICATED BY ARROWS.
IT'S A CONNECTION TO OUR PURE, UNCOMPLICATED ANCESTRAL PAST.
IT'S A DURA-FLAME.™
GRIFFY


ZIPPY
"SYNCHRONICITY"
BILL GRIFFITH
I'M THINKING ABOUT JOINING THAT NUDIST U.F.O. CULT IN FLORIDA-- I WONDER WHAT ZERBINA IS THINKING ABOUT..
I WONDER IF ZIPPY IS WONDERING WHAT I'M THINKING ABOUT...
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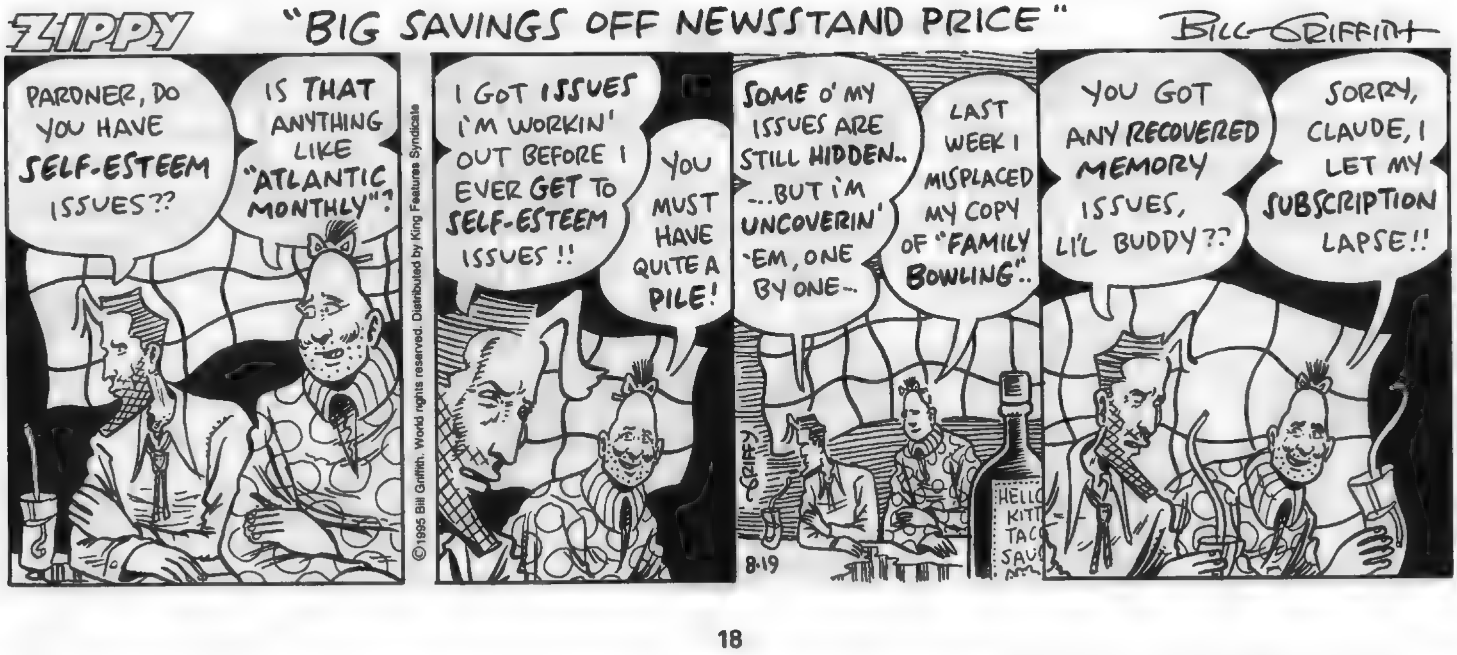
I'M WONDERING IF ZERBINA IS WONDERING WHAT I THINK SHE'S THINKING ABOUT..
I WONDER IF ZIPPY IS WONDERING WHAT I'M WONDERING HE THINKS I'M THINKING ABOUT..
GRIFFY
8-18
ZIPPY, I'M THINKING ABOUT JOINING THAT NUDIST U.F.O. CULT IN FLORIDA..
WHERE'D YOU GET THAT CRAZY IDEA??


ZIPPY
"BIG SAVINGS OFF NEWSSTAND PRICE"
BILL GRIFFITH
PARDNER, DO YOU HAVE SELF-ESTEEM ISSUES??
IS THAT ANYTHING LIKE "ATLANTIC MONTHLY"?
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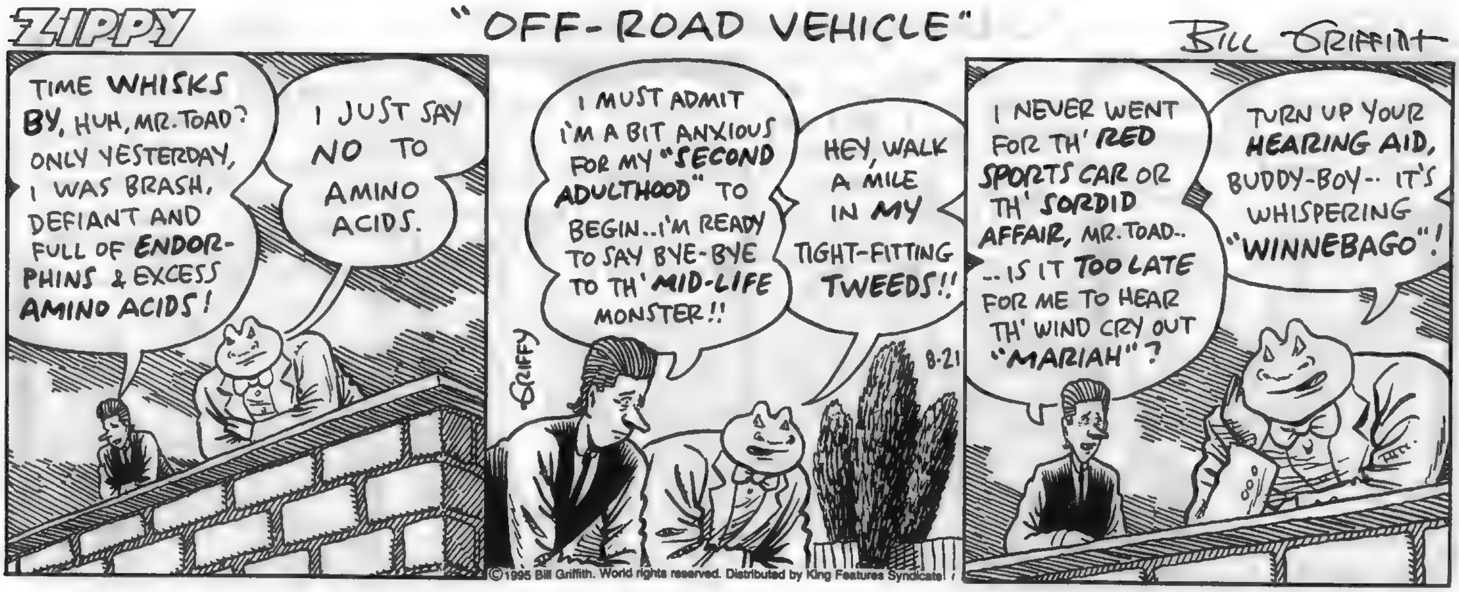
I GOT ISSUES I'M WORKIN' OUT BEFORE I EVER GET TO SELF-ESTEEM ISSUES!!
YOU MUST HAVE QUITE A PILE!
SOME O' MY ISSUES ARE STILL HIDDEN.. ...BUT I'M UNCOVERIN' 'EM, ONE BY ONE..
LAST WEEK I MISPLACED MY COPY OF "FAMILY BOWLING"..
GRIFFY
8-19
HELLO KITT TACO SAUC
YOU GOT ANY RECOVERED MEMORY ISSUES, LI'L BUDDY??
SORRY, CLAUDE, I LET MY SUBSCRIPTION LAPSE!!


ZIPPY
"OFF-ROAD VEHICLE"
BILL GRIFFITH
TIME WHISKS BY, HUH, MR. TOAD? ONLY YESTERDAY, I WAS BRASH, DEFIANT AND FULL OF ENDORPHINS & EXCESS AMINO ACIDS!
I JUST SAY NO TO AMINO ACIDS.
I MUST ADMIT I'M A BIT ANXIOUS FOR MY "SECOND ADULTHOOD" TO BEGIN...I'M READY TO SAY BYE-BYE TO TH' MID-LIFE MONSTER!!
HEY, WALK A MILE IN MY TIGHT-FITTING TWEEDS!!
GRIFFY
8-21
I NEVER WENT FOR TH' RED SPORTS CAR OR TH' SORDID AFFAIR, MR. TOAD.. ..IS IT TOO LATE FOR ME TO HEAR TH' WIND CRY OUT "MARIAH"?
TURN UP YOUR HEARING AID, BUDDY-BOY-- IT'S WHISPERING "WINNEBAGO"!
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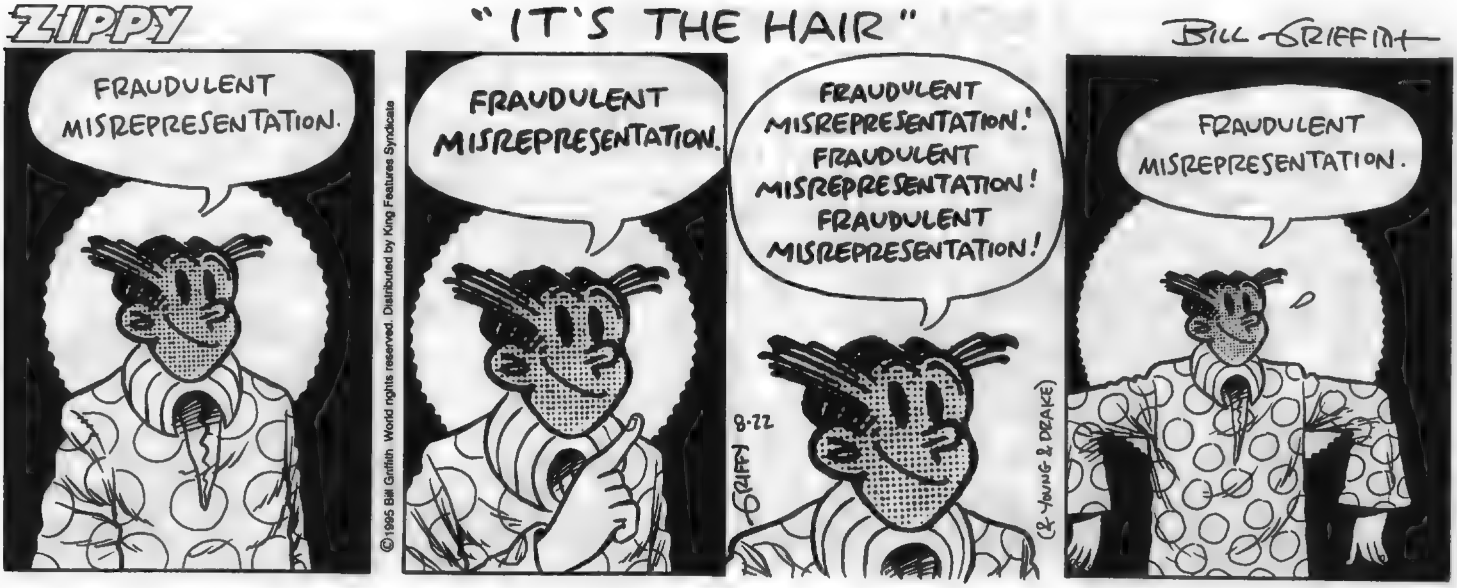
ZIPPY
"IT'S THE HAIR"
BILL GRIFFITH
FRAUDULENT MISREPRESENTATION.
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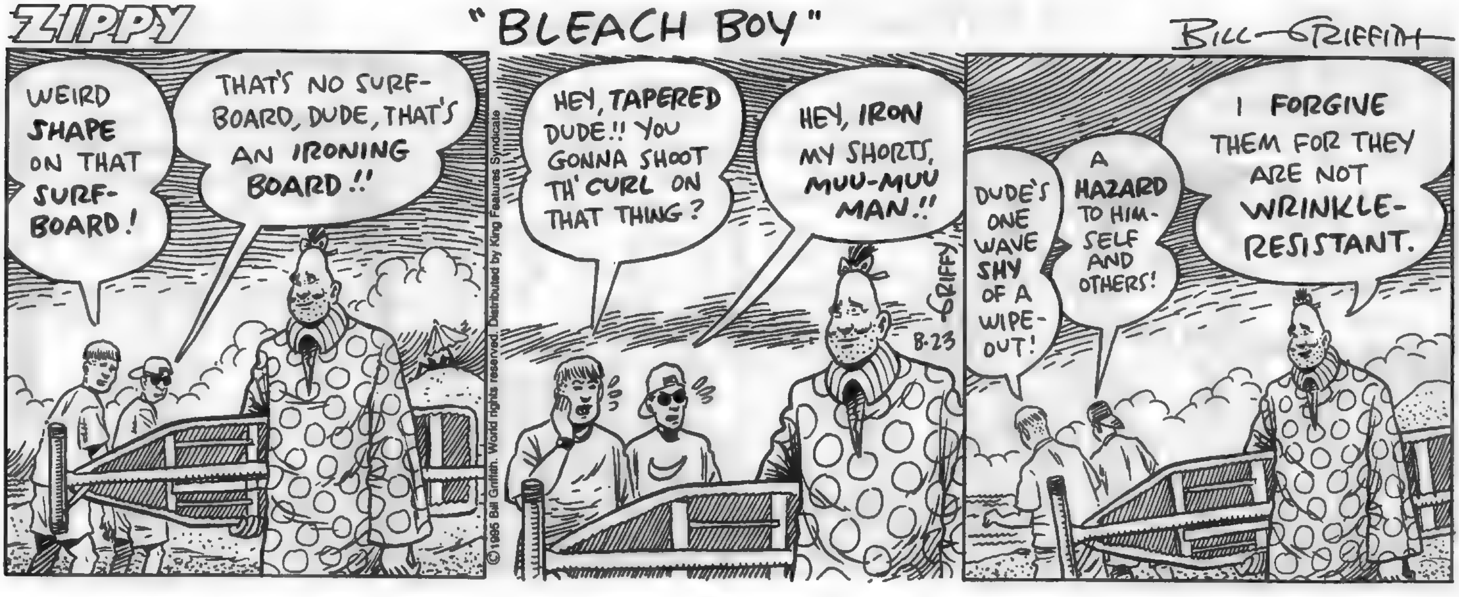
FRAUDULENT MISREPRESENTATION.
8-22
GRIFFY
FRAUDULENT MISREPRESENTATION! FRAUDULENT MISREPRESENTATION! FRAUDULENT MISREPRESENTATION!
(& YOUNG & DRAKE)
FRAUDULENT MISREPRESENTATION.


ZIPPY
"BLEACH BOY"
BILL GRIFFITH
WEIRD SHAPE ON THAT SURFBOARD!
THAT'S NO SURFBOARD, DUDE, THAT'S AN IRONING BOARD!!
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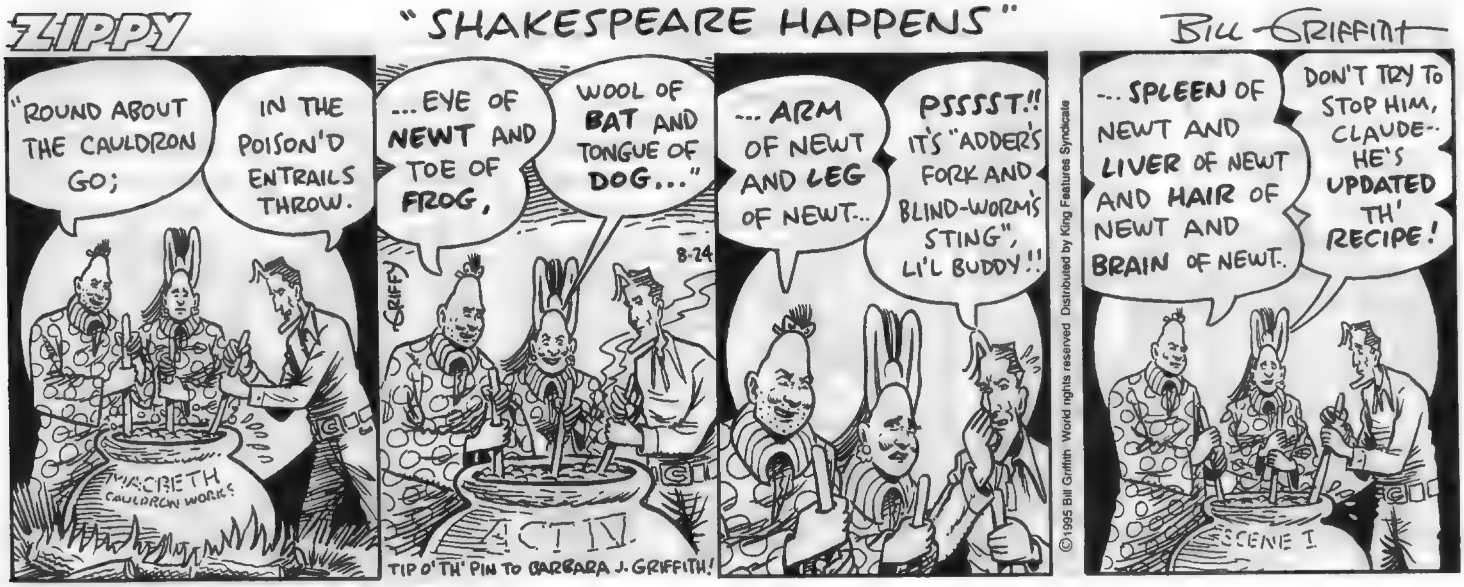
HEY, TAPERED DUDE!! YOU GONNA SHOOT TH' CURL ON THAT THING?
HEY, IRON MY SHORTS, MUU-MUU MAN!!
GRIFFY
8-23
DUDE'S ONE WAVE SHY OF A WIPE-OUT!
A HAZARD TO HIMSELF AND OTHERS!
I FORGIVE THEM FOR THEY ARE NOT WRINKLE-RESISTANT.


ZIPPY
"SHAKESPEARE HAPPENS"
BILL GRIFFITH
"ROUND ABOUT THE CAULDRON GO;
IN THE POISON'D ENTRAILS THROW.
MACBETH CAULDRON WORKS
...EYE OF NEWT AND TOE OF FROG,
WOOL OF BAT AND TONGUE OF DOG..."
8-24
GRIFFY
ACT IV
TIP O' TH' PIN TO BARBARA J. GRIFFITH!
...ARM OF NEWT AND LEG OF NEWT...
PSSSST!! IT'S "ADDER'S FORK AND BLIND-WORM'S STING", LI'L BUDDY!!
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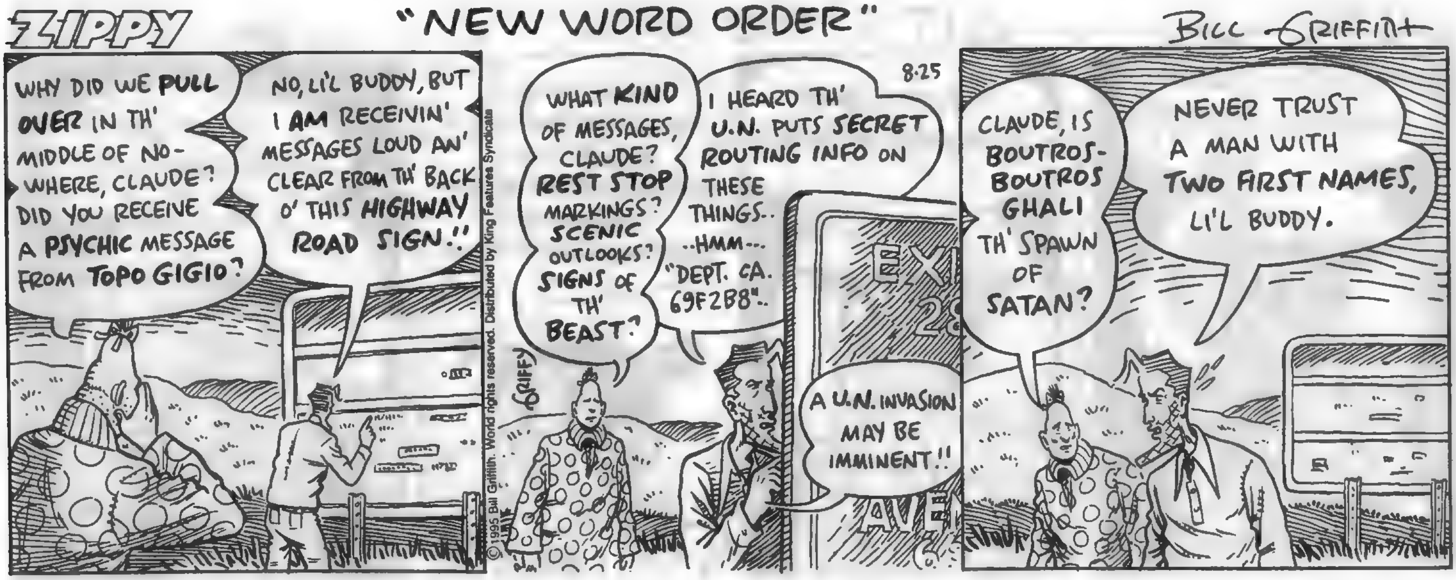
...SPLEEN OF NEWT AND LIVER OF NEWT AND HAIR OF NEWT AND BRAIN OF NEWT.
DON'T TRY TO STOP HIM, CLAUDE-- HE'S UPDATED TH' RECIPE!
SCENE I


ZIPPY
"NEW WORD ORDER"
BILL GRIFFITH
WHY DID WE PULL OVER IN TH' MIDDLE OF NO-WHERE, CLAUDE? DID YOU RECEIVE A PSYCHIC MESSAGE FROM TOPO GIGIO?
NO, LI'L BUDDY, BUT I AM RECEIVIN' MESSAGES LOUD AN' CLEAR FROM TH' BACK O' THIS HIGHWAY ROAD SIGN!!
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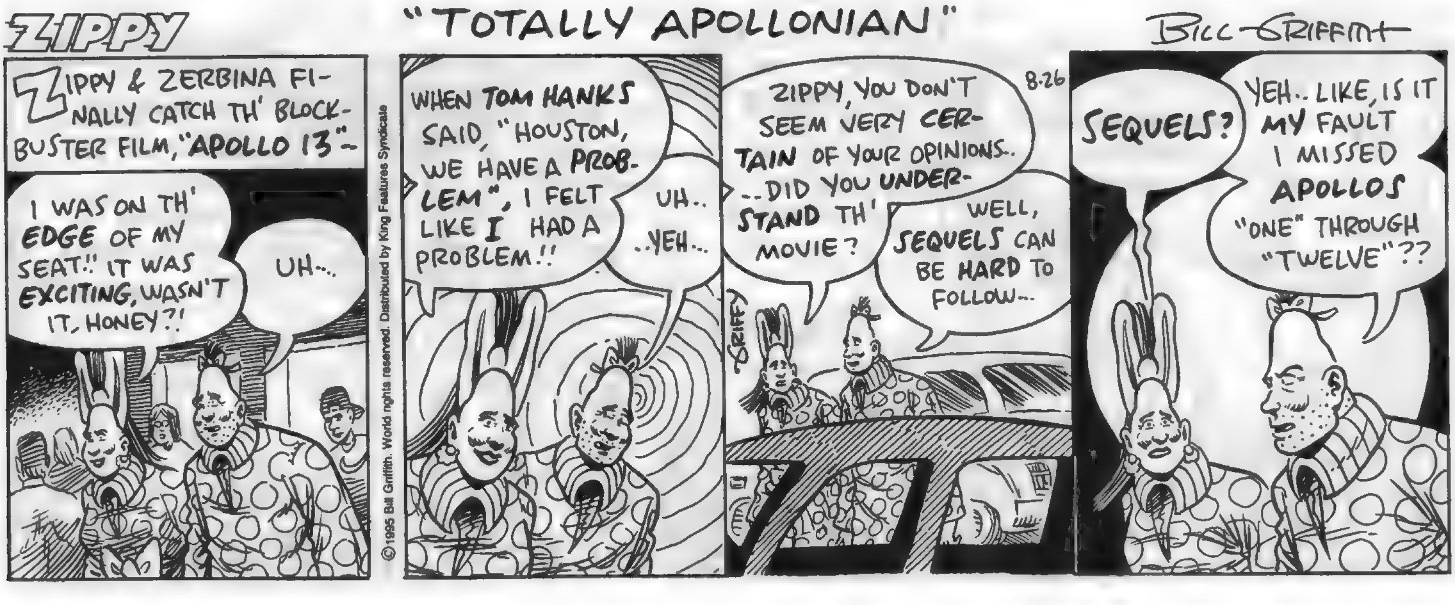
8-25
GRIFFY
WHAT KIND OF MESSAGES, CLAUDE? REST STOP MARKINGS? SCENIC OUTLOOKS? SIGNS OF TH' BEAST?
I HEARD TH' U.N. PUTS SECRET ROUTING INFO ON THESE THINGS.. ..HMM--.. "DEPT. CA. 69F2B8"..
A U.N. INVASION MAY BE IMMINENT!!
CLAUDE, IS BOUTROS-BOUTROS GHALI TH' SPAWN OF SATAN?
NEVER TRUST A MAN WITH TWO FIRST NAMES, LI'L BUDDY.


ZIPPY
"TOTALLY APOLLONIAN"
BILL GRIFFITH
ZIPPY & ZERBINA FINALLY CATCH TH' BLOCKBUSTER FILM, "APOLLO 13"--
I WAS ON TH' EDGE OF MY SEAT!! IT WAS EXCITING, WASN'T IT, HONEY?!
UH--..
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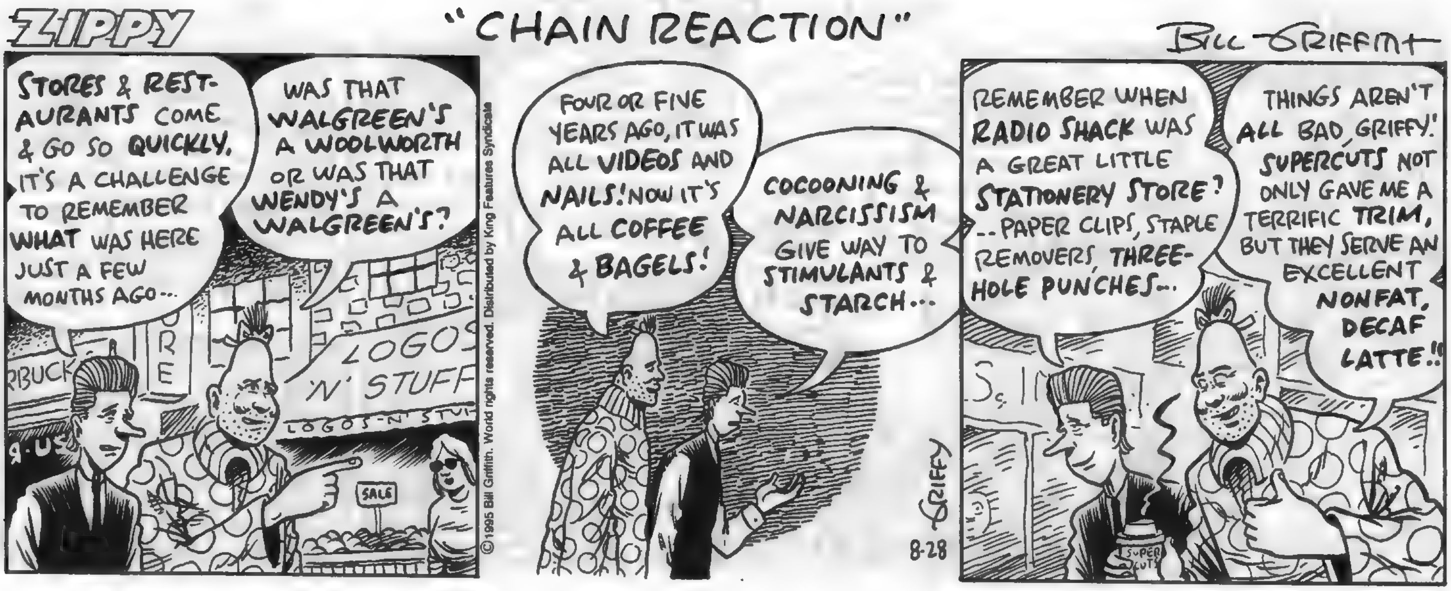
WHEN TOM HANKS SAID, "HOUSTON, WE HAVE A PROBLEM", I FELT LIKE I HAD A PROBLEM!!
UH.. ..YEH...
8-26
ZIPPY, YOU DON'T SEEM VERY CERTAIN OF YOUR OPINIONS.. ..DID YOU UNDERSTAND TH' MOVIE?
WELL, SEQUELS CAN BE HARD TO FOLLOW...
GRIFFY
SEQUELS?
YEH.. LIKE, IS IT MY FAULT I MISSED APOLLOS "ONE" THROUGH "TWELVE"??


ZIPPY
"CHAIN REACTION"
BILL GRIFFITH
STORES & RESTAURANTS COME & GO SO QUICKLY, IT'S A CHALLENGE TO REMEMBER WHAT WAS HERE JUST A FEW MONTHS AGO...
WAS THAT WALGREEN'S A WOOLWORTH OR WAS THAT WENDY'S A WALGREEN'S?
LOGOS 'N' STUFF
SALE
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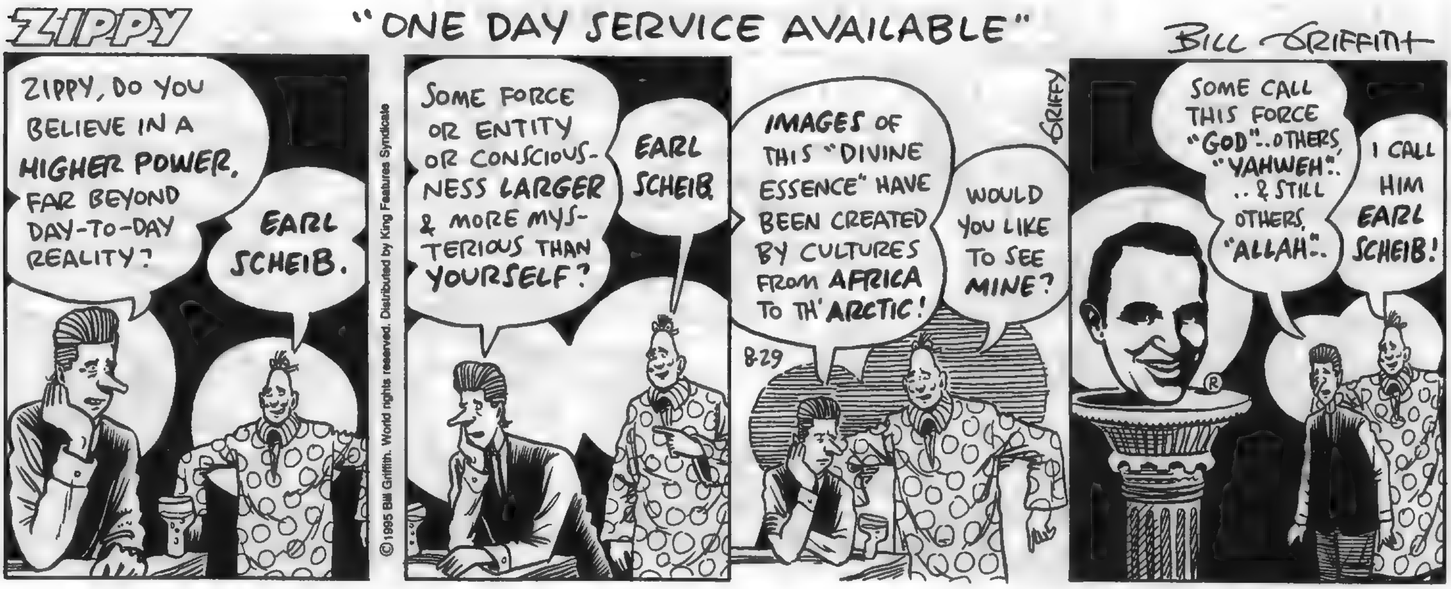
FOUR OR FIVE YEARS AGO, IT WAS ALL VIDEOS AND NAILS! NOW IT'S ALL COFFEE & BAGELS!
COCOONING & NARCISSISM GIVE WAY TO STIMULANTS & STARCH...
GRIFFY
8-28
REMEMBER WHEN RADIO SHACK WAS A GREAT LITTLE STATIONERY STORE? --PAPER CLIPS, STAPLE REMOVERS, THREE-HOLE PUNCHES...
THINGS AREN'T ALL BAD, GRIFFY! SUPERCUTS NOT ONLY GAVE ME A TERRIFIC TRIM, BUT THEY SERVE AN EXCELLENT NONFAT, DECAF LATTE!!
SUPERCUTS


ZIPPY
"ONE DAY SERVICE AVAILABLE"
BILL GRIFFITH
ZIPPY, DO YOU BELIEVE IN A HIGHER POWER, FAR BEYOND DAY-TO-DAY REALITY?
EARL SCHEIB.
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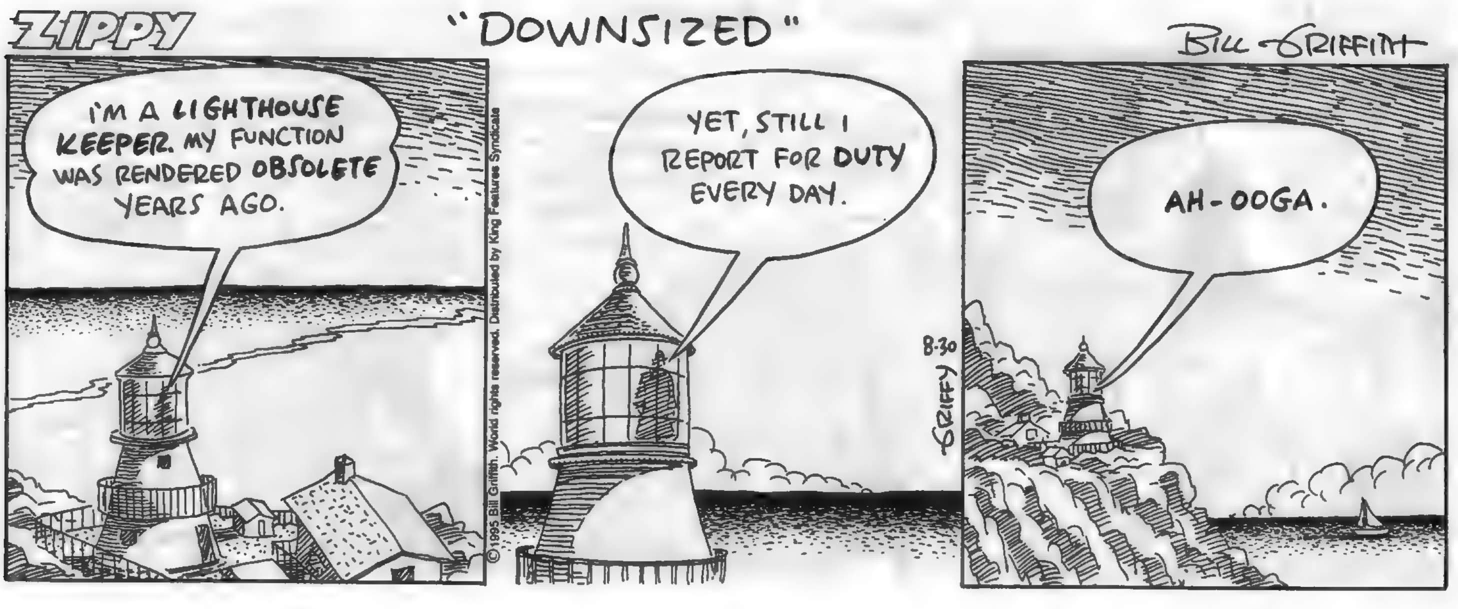
SOME FORCE OR ENTITY OR CONSCIOUSNESS LARGER & MORE MYSTERIOUS THAN YOURSELF?
EARL SCHEIB.
IMAGES OF THIS "DIVINE ESSENCE" HAVE BEEN CREATED BY CULTURES FROM AFRICA TO TH' ARCTIC!
WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE MINE?
8-29
GRIFFY
SOME CALL THIS FORCE "GOD"..OTHERS, "YAHWEH"... & STILL OTHERS, "ALLAH"..
I CALL HIM EARL SCHEIB!


ZIPPY
"DOWNSIZED"
BILL GRIFFITH
I'M A LIGHTHOUSE KEEPER. MY FUNCTION WAS RENDERED OBSOLETE YEARS AGO.
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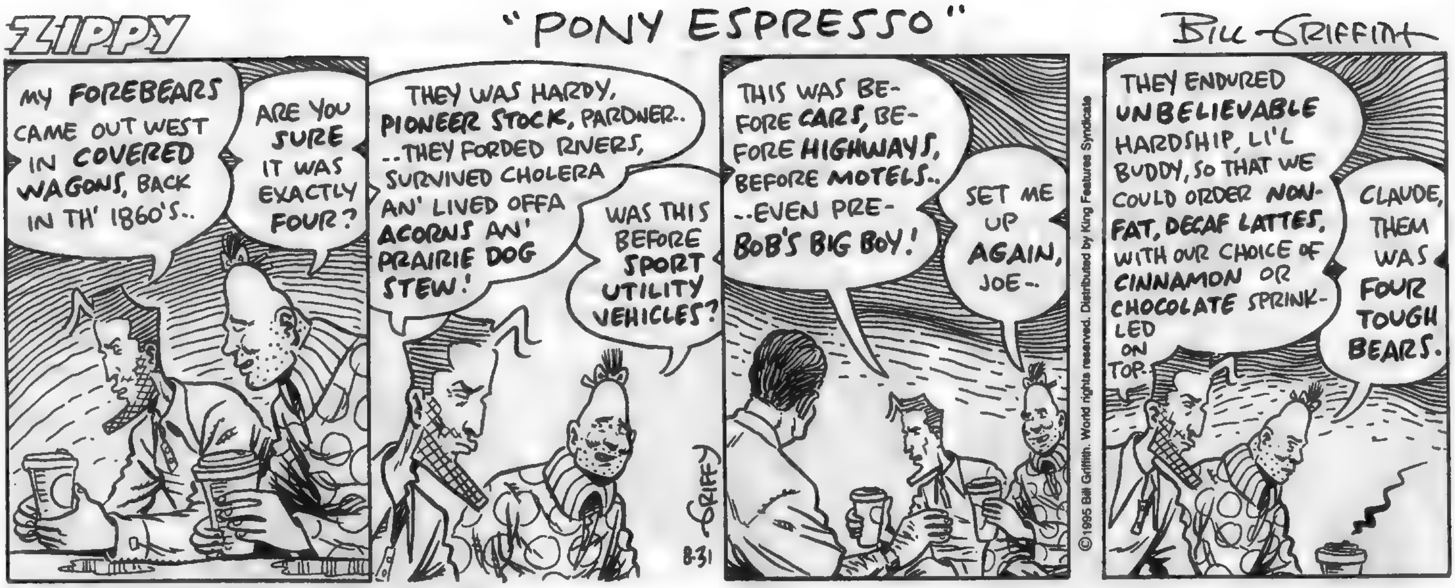
YET, STILL I REPORT FOR DUTY EVERY DAY.
8-30
GRIFFY
AH-OOGA.


ZIPPY
"PONY ESPRESSO"
BILL GRIFFITH
MY FOREBEARS CAME OUT WEST IN COVERED WAGONS, BACK IN TH' 1860'S..
ARE YOU SURE IT WAS EXACTLY FOUR?
THEY WAS HARDY, PIONEER STOCK, PARDNER.. --THEY FORDED RIVERS, SURVIVED CHOLERA AN' LIVED OFFA ACORNS AN' PRAIRIE DOG STEW!
WAS THIS BEFORE SPORT UTILITY VEHICLES?
GRIFFY
8-31
THIS WAS BEFORE CARS, BEFORE HIGHWAYS, BEFORE MOTELS.. --EVEN PRE-BOB'S BIG BOY!
SET ME UP AGAIN, JOE--
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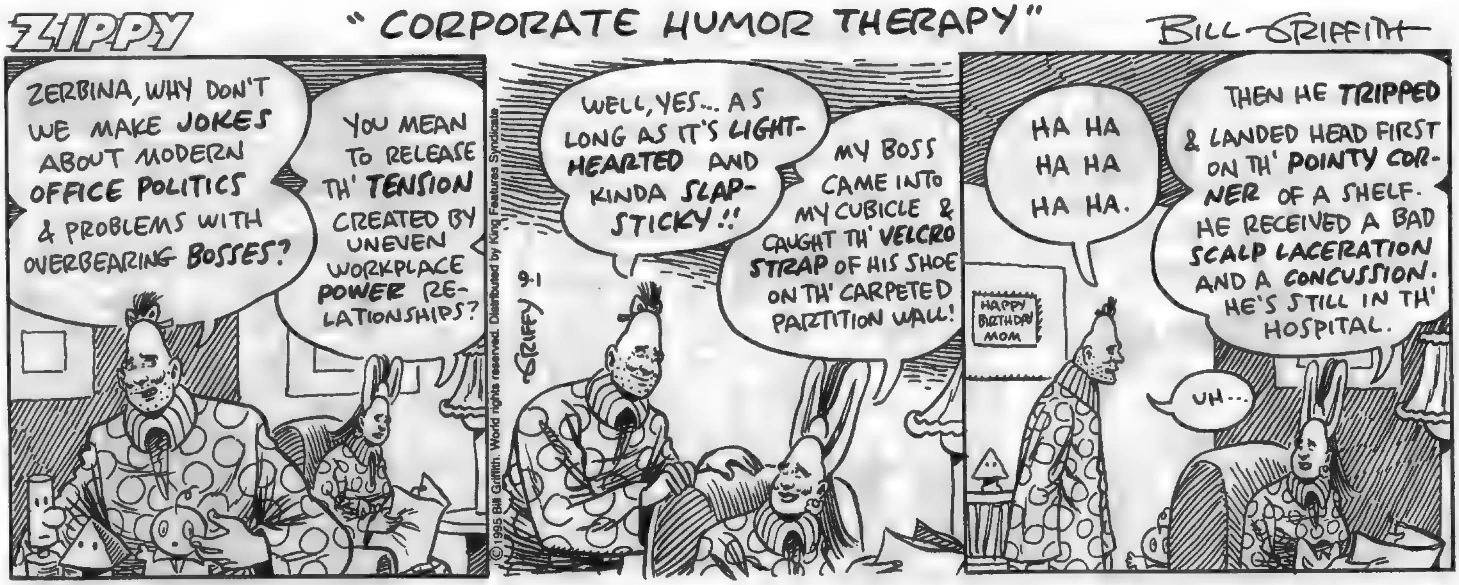
THEY ENDURED UNBELIEVABLE HARDSHIP, LI'L BUDDY, SO THAT WE COULD ORDER NON-FAT, DECAF LATTES, WITH OUR CHOICE OF CINNAMON OR CHOCOLATE SPRINKLED ON TOP.
CLAUDE, THEM WAS FOUR TOUGH BEARS.


ZIPPY
"CORPORATE HUMOR THERAPY"
BILL GRIFFITH
ZERBINA, WHY DON'T WE MAKE JOKES ABOUT MODERN OFFICE POLITICS & PROBLEMS WITH OVERBEARING BOSSES?
YOU MEAN TO RELEASE TH' TENSION CREATED BY UNEVEN WORKPLACE POWER RELATIONSHIPS?
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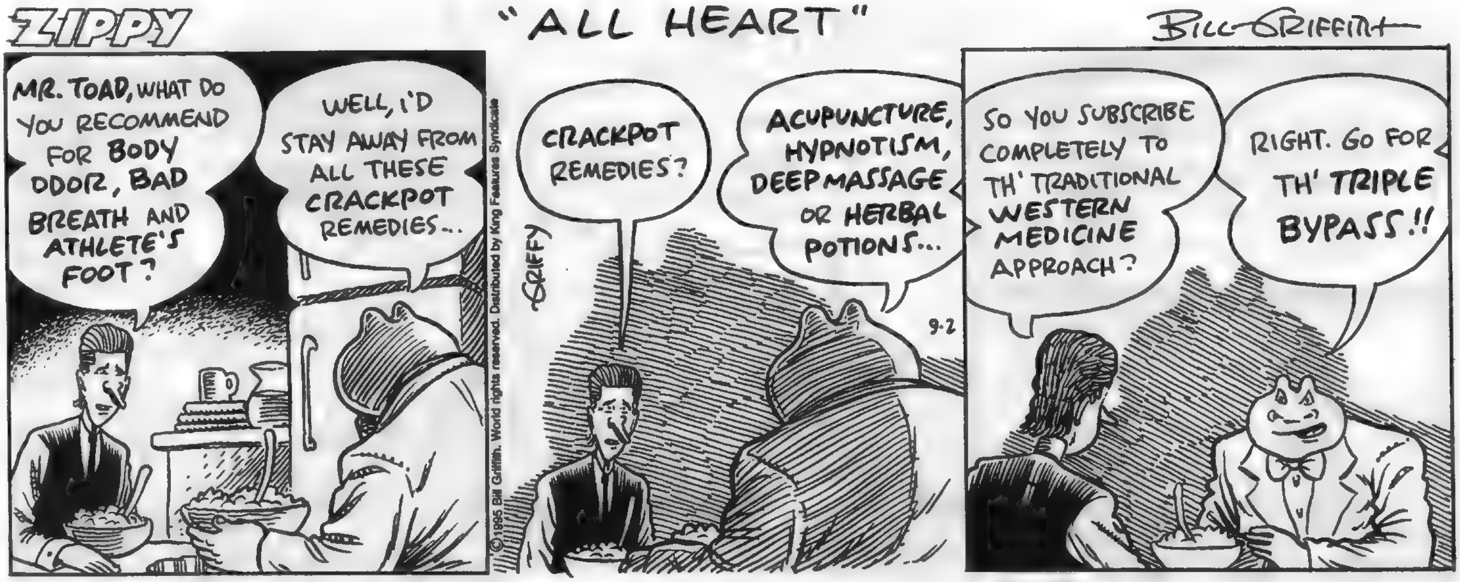
9-1
GRIFFY
WELL, YES... AS LONG AS IT'S LIGHT-HEARTED AND KINDA SLAP-STICKY!!
MY BOSS CAME INTO MY CUBICLE & CAUGHT TH' VELCRO STRAP OF HIS SHOE ON TH' CARPETED PARTITION WALL!
HA HA HA HA HA HA.
HAPPY BIRTHDAY MOM
THEN HE TRIPPED & LANDED HEAD FIRST ON TH' POINTY CORNER OF A SHELF. HE RECEIVED A BAD SCALP LACERATION AND A CONCUSSION. HE'S STILL IN TH' HOSPITAL.
UH...


ZIPPY
"ALL HEART"
BILL GRIFFITH
MR. TOAD, WHAT DO YOU RECOMMEND FOR BODY ODOR, BAD BREATH AND ATHLETE'S FOOT?
WELL, I'D STAY AWAY FROM ALL THESE CRACKPOT REMEDIES...
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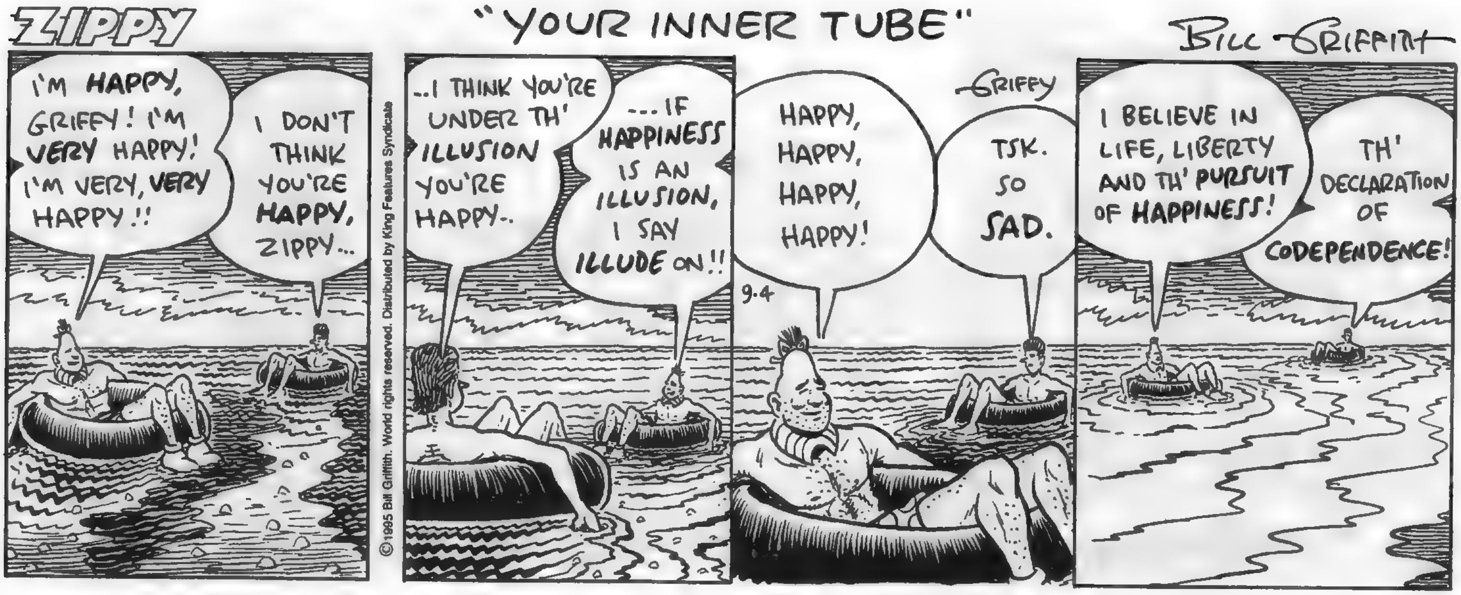
GRIFFY
CRACKPOT REMEDIES?
ACUPUNCTURE, HYPNOTISM, DEEP MASSAGE OR HERBAL POTIONS...
9-2
SO YOU SUBSCRIBE COMPLETELY TO TH' TRADITIONAL WESTERN MEDICINE APPROACH?
RIGHT. GO FOR TH' TRIPLE BYPASS!!


ZIPPY
"YOUR INNER TUBE"
BILL GRIFFITH
I'M HAPPY, GRIFFY! I'M VERY HAPPY! I'M VERY, VERY HAPPY!!
I DON'T THINK YOU'RE HAPPY, ZIPPY...
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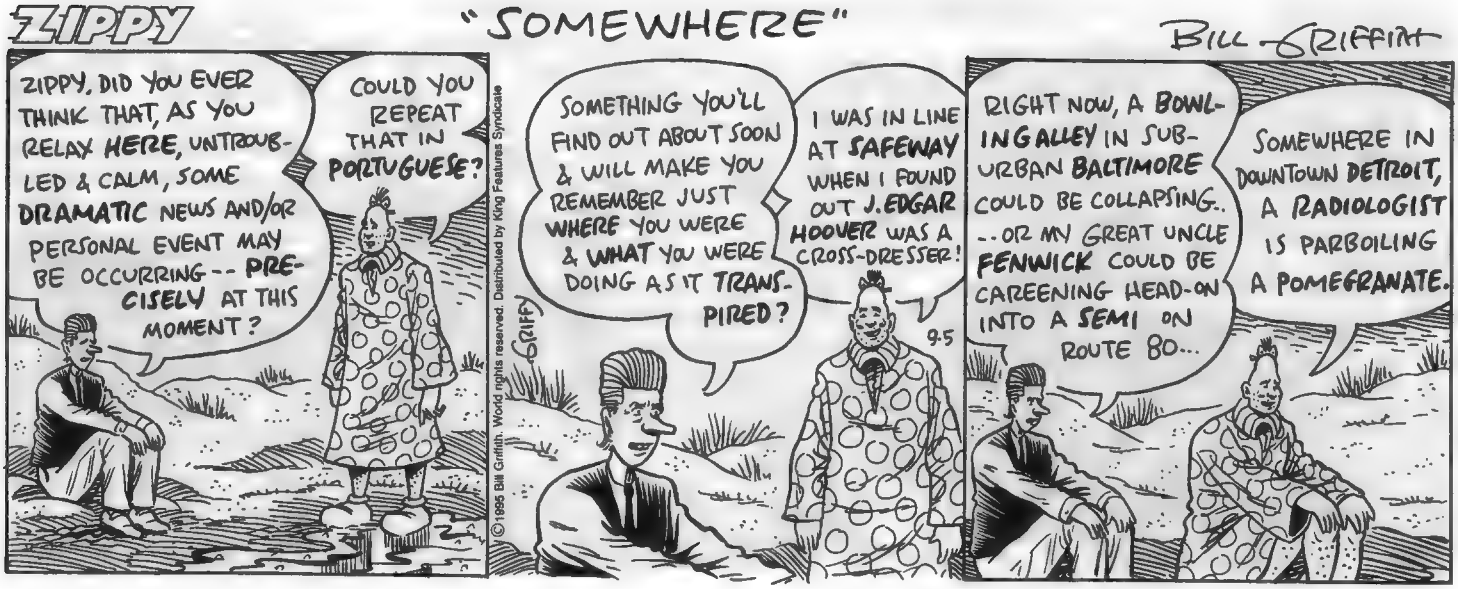
..I THINK YOU'RE UNDER TH' ILLUSION YOU'RE HAPPY..
...IF HAPPINESS IS AN ILLUSION, I SAY ILLUDE ON!!
9.4
HAPPY, HAPPY, HAPPY, HAPPY!
GRIFFY
TSK. SO SAD.
I BELIEVE IN LIFE, LIBERTY AND TH' PURSUIT OF HAPPINESS!
TH' DECLARATION OF CODEPENDENCE!


ZIPPY
"SOMEWHERE"
BILL GRIFFITH
ZIPPY, DID YOU EVER THINK THAT, AS YOU RELAX HERE, UNTROUBLED & CALM, SOME DRAMATIC NEWS AND/OR PERSONAL EVENT MAY BE OCCURRING -- PRECISELY AT THIS MOMENT?
COULD YOU REPEAT THAT IN PORTUGUESE?
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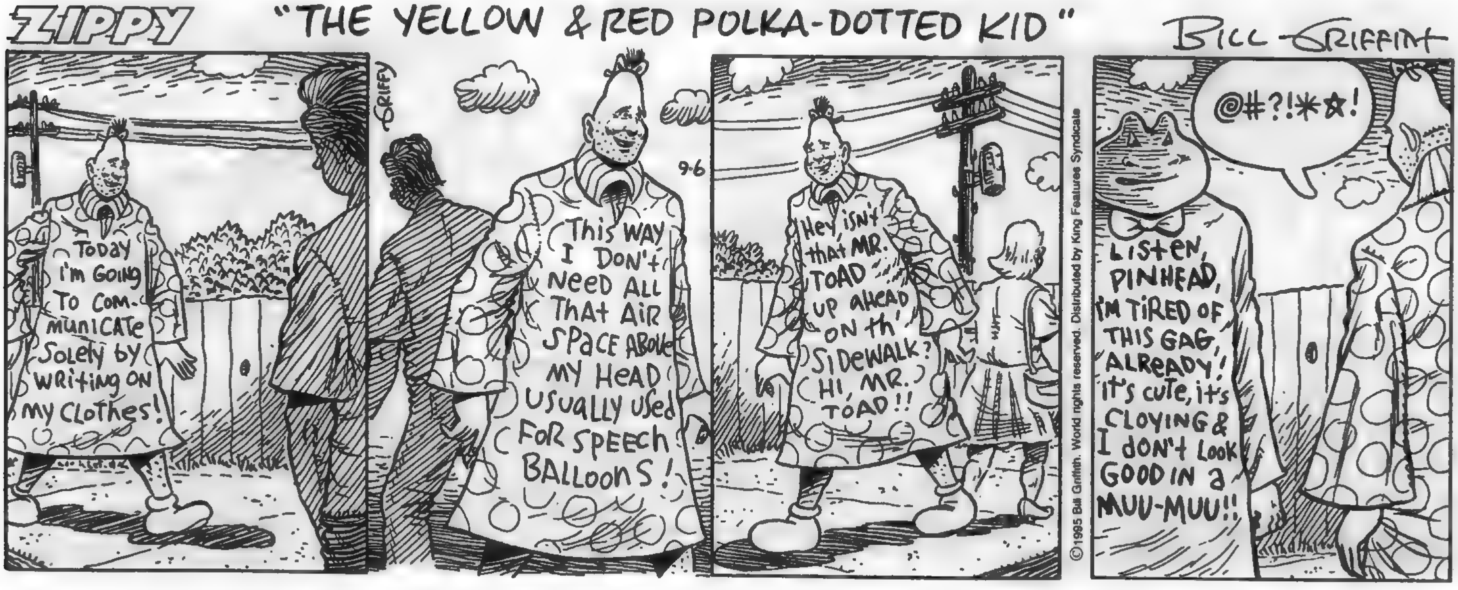
GRIFFY
SOMETHING YOU'LL FIND OUT ABOUT SOON & WILL MAKE YOU REMEMBER JUST WHERE YOU WERE & WHAT YOU WERE DOING AS IT TRANSPIRED?
I WAS IN LINE AT SAFEWAY WHEN I FOUND OUT J. EDGAR HOOVER WAS A CROSS-DRESSER!
9.5
RIGHT NOW, A BOWLING ALLEY IN SUBURBAN BALTIMORE COULD BE COLLAPSING.. ..OR MY GREAT UNCLE FENWICK COULD BE CAREENING HEAD-ON INTO A SEMI ON ROUTE 80...
SOMEWHERE IN DOWNTOWN DETROIT, A RADIOLOGIST IS PARBOILING A POMEGRANATE.


ZIPPY
"THE YELLOW & RED POLKA-DOTTED KID"
BILL GRIFFITH
Today I'm Going To Communicate Solely by Writing on my Clothes!
GRIFFY
9.6
This way I Don't Need All That Air Space Above My Head Usually Used For Speech Balloons!
Hey isn't that MR. TOAD up ahead on th' Sidewalk? Hi, MR. TOAD!!
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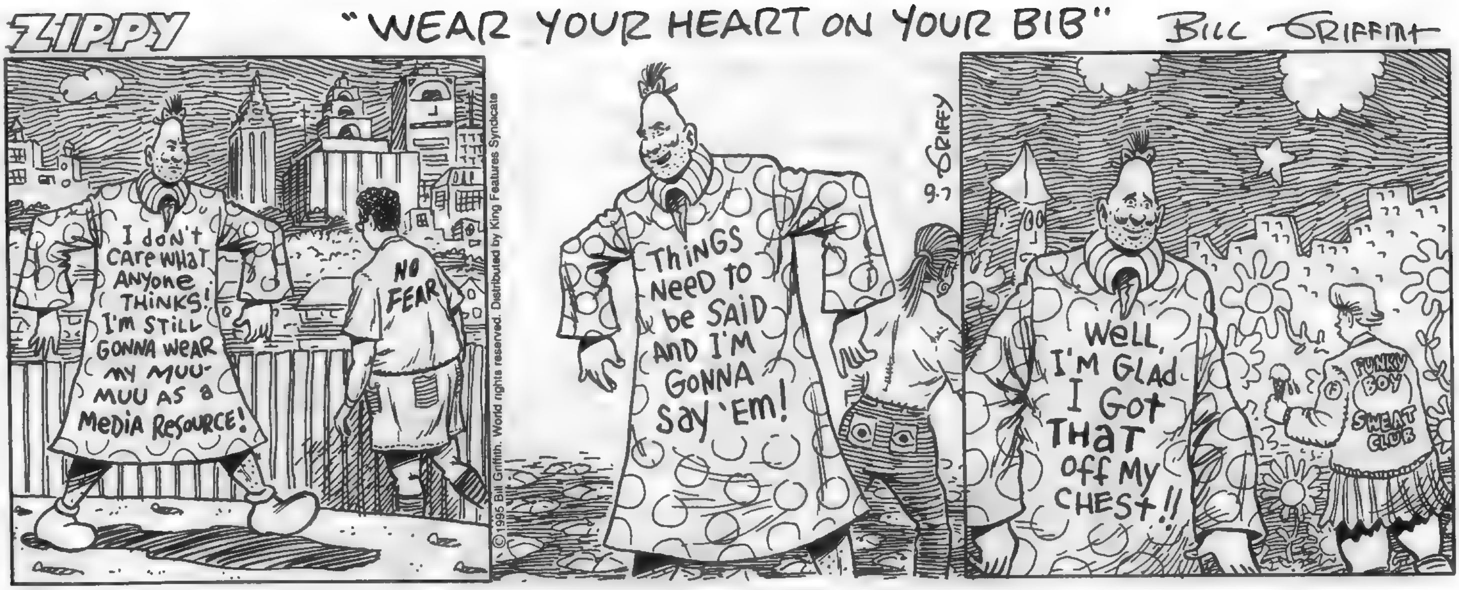
@#?!✱✫!
Listen, PINHEAD, I'm TIRED OF THIS GAG ALREADY! it's cute, it's CLOYING & I don't Look GOOD IN a MUU-MUU!!


ZIPPY
"WEAR YOUR HEART ON YOUR BIB"
BILL GRIFFITH
I don't care what anyone thinks! I'm still gonna wear my muu-muu as a media resource!
NO FEAR
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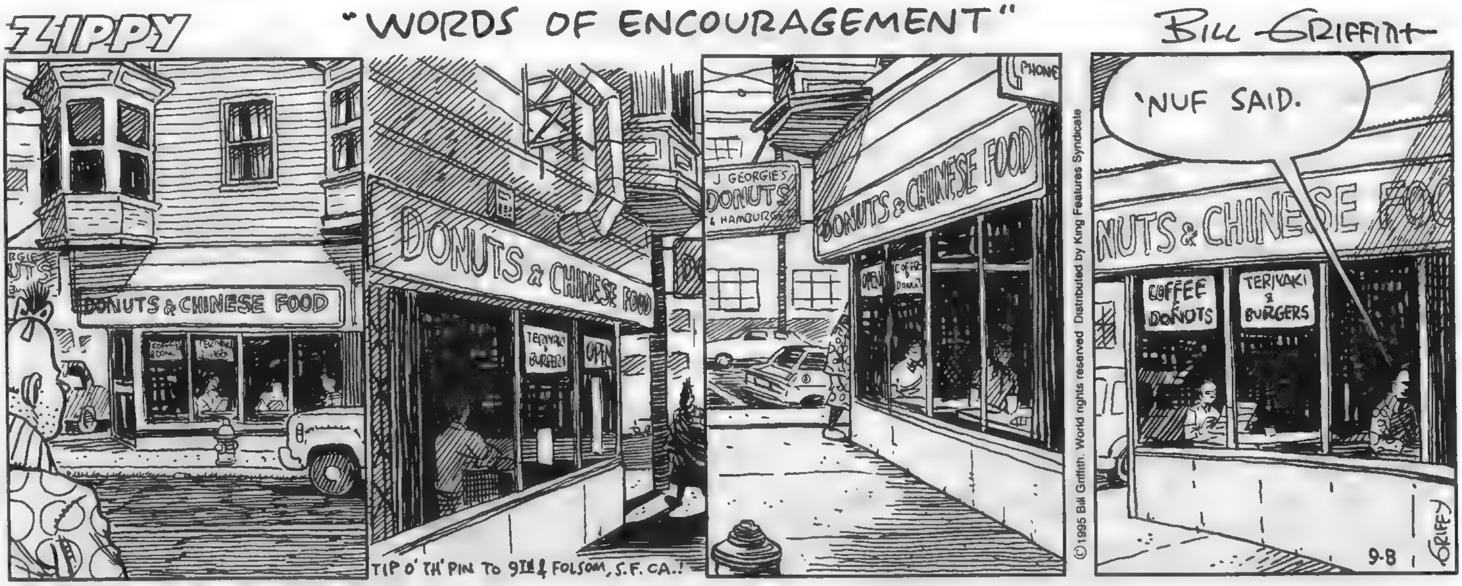
GRIFFY 9-7
Things need to be said and I'm gonna say 'em!
Well, I'm glad I got that off my chest!!
FUNKY BOY SWEAT CLUB


ZIPPY
"WORDS OF ENCOURAGEMENT"
BILL GRIFFITH
DONUTS & CHINESE FOOD
DONUTS & CHINESE FOOD
TERIYAKI BURGERS
OPEN
TIP O' TH' PIN TO 9TH & FOLSOM, S.F. CA.!
J GEORGIE'S DONUTS & HAMBURGERS
PHONE
DONUTS & CHINESE FOOD
OPEN
COFFEE DONUTS
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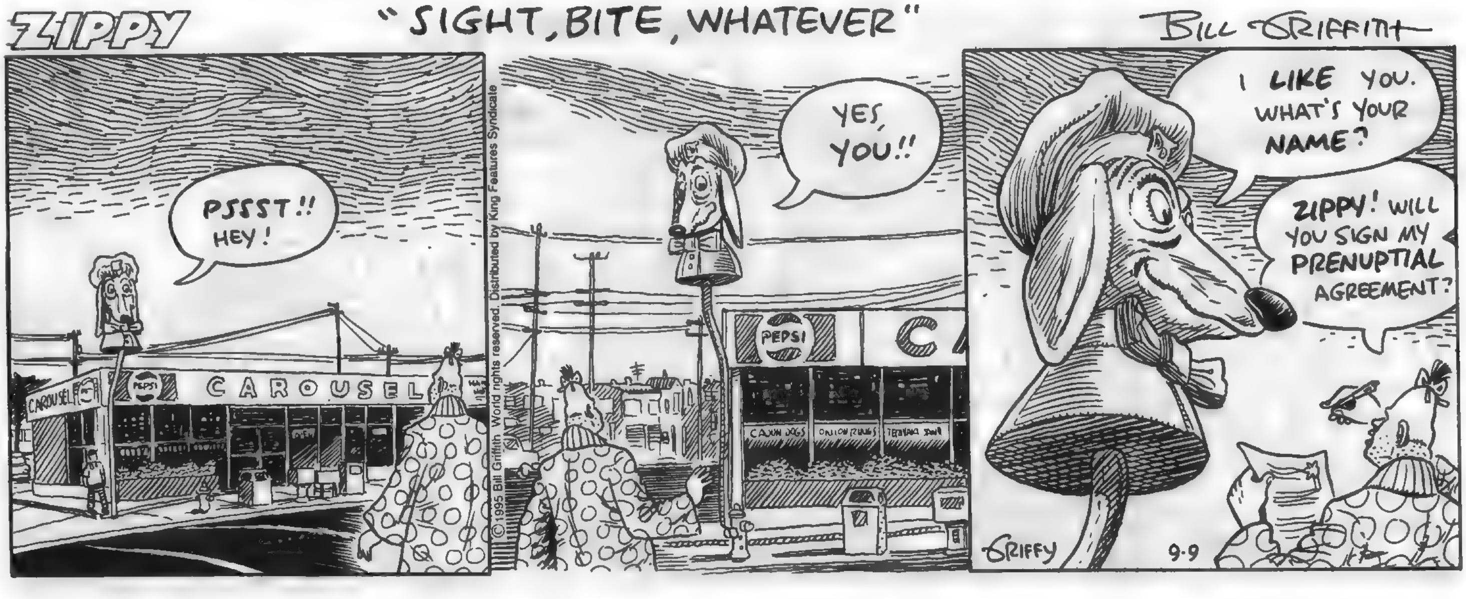
'NUF SAID.
NUTS & CHINESE FOO
COFFEE DONUTS
TERIYAKI & BURGERS
9-8 GRIFFY


ZIPPY
"SIGHT, BITE, WHATEVER"
BILL GRIFFITH
PSSST!! HEY!
CAROUSEL
PEPSI
CAROUSEL
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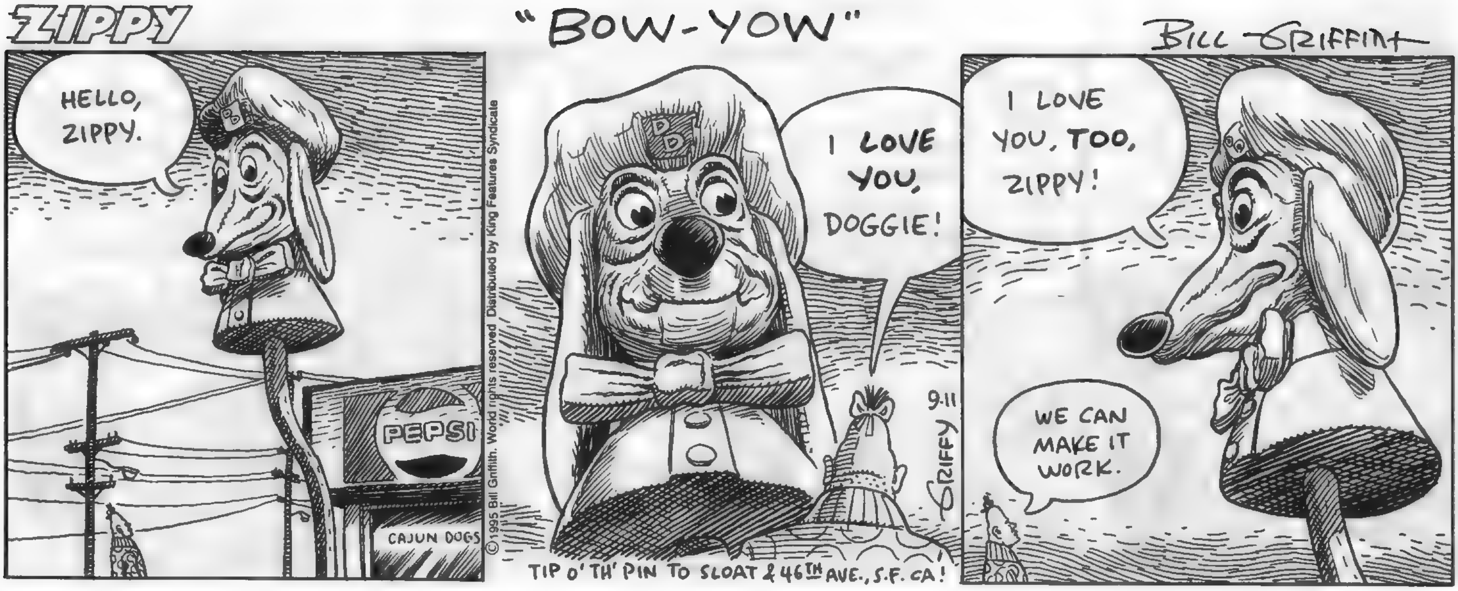
YES, YOU!!
PEPSI
CA
CAJUN DOGS ONION RINGS TERIYAKI
I LIKE YOU. WHAT'S YOUR NAME?
ZIPPY! WILL YOU SIGN MY PRENUPTIAL AGREEMENT?
GRIFFY
9-9


ZIPPY
"BOW-YOW"
BILL GRIFFITH
HELLO, ZIPPY.
PEPSI
CAJUN DOGS
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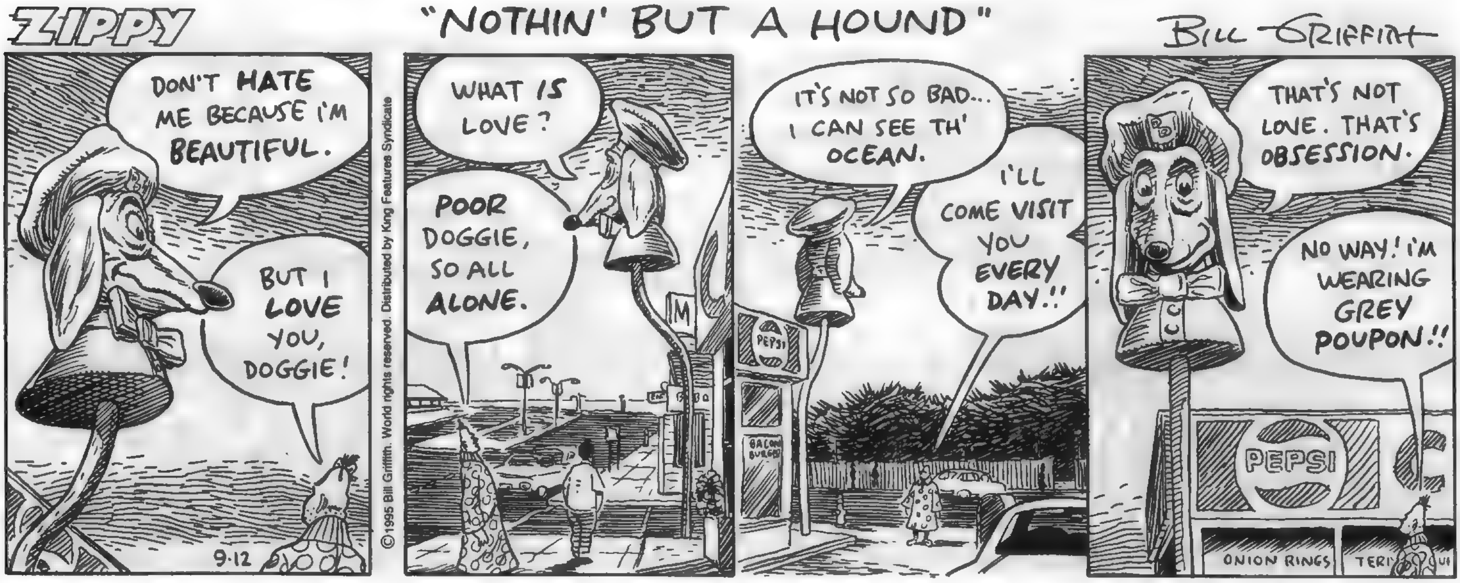
I LOVE YOU, DOGGIE!
9.11
GRIFFY
TIP O' TH' PIN TO SLOAT & 46TH AVE., S.F. CA!
I LOVE YOU, TOO, ZIPPY!
WE CAN MAKE IT WORK.


ZIPPY
"NOTHIN' BUT A HOUND"
BILL GRIFFITH
DON'T HATE ME BECAUSE I'M BEAUTIFUL.
BUT I LOVE YOU, DOGGIE!
9.12
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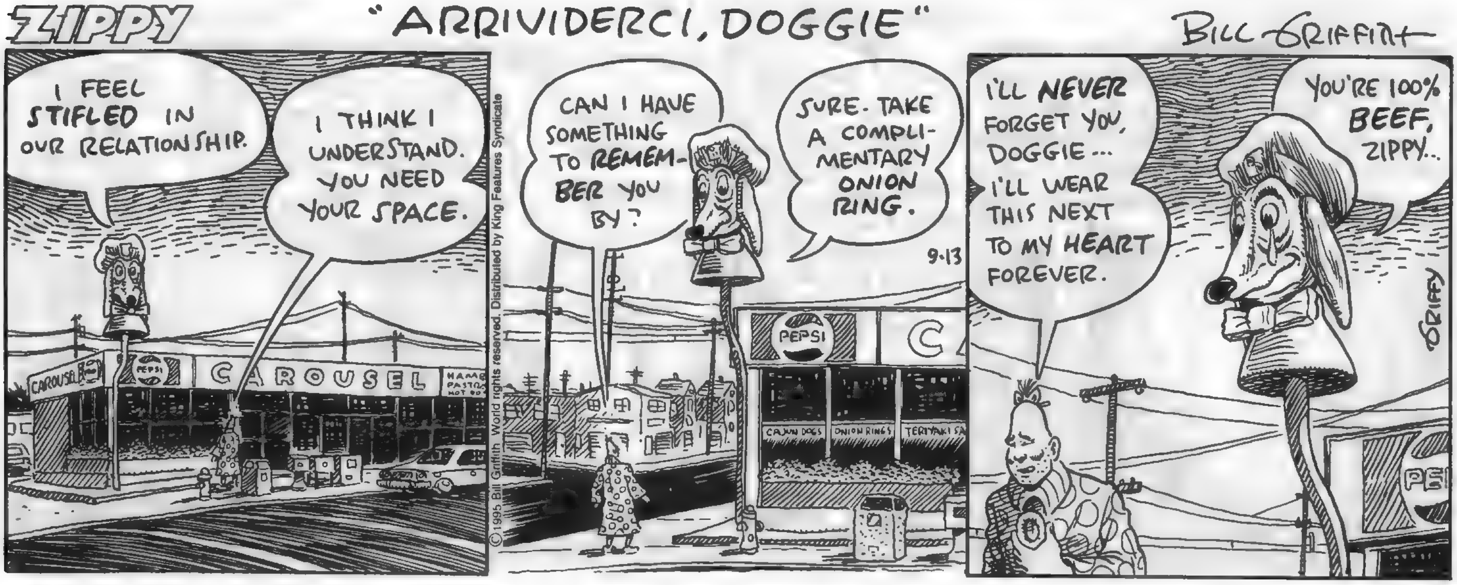
WHAT IS LOVE?
POOR DOGGIE, SO ALL ALONE.
IT'S NOT SO BAD... I CAN SEE TH' OCEAN.
I'LL COME VISIT YOU EVERY DAY.!!
PEPSI
BACON BURGER
THAT'S NOT LOVE. THAT'S OBSESSION.
NO WAY! I'M WEARING GREY POUPON!!
PEPSI
ONION RINGS


ZIPPY
"ARRIVIDERCI, DOGGIE"
BILL GRIFFITH
I FEEL STIFLED IN OUR RELATIONSHIP.
I THINK I UNDERSTAND. YOU NEED YOUR SPACE.
CAROUSEL
PEPSI
HAMB PASTRAMI HOT DOG
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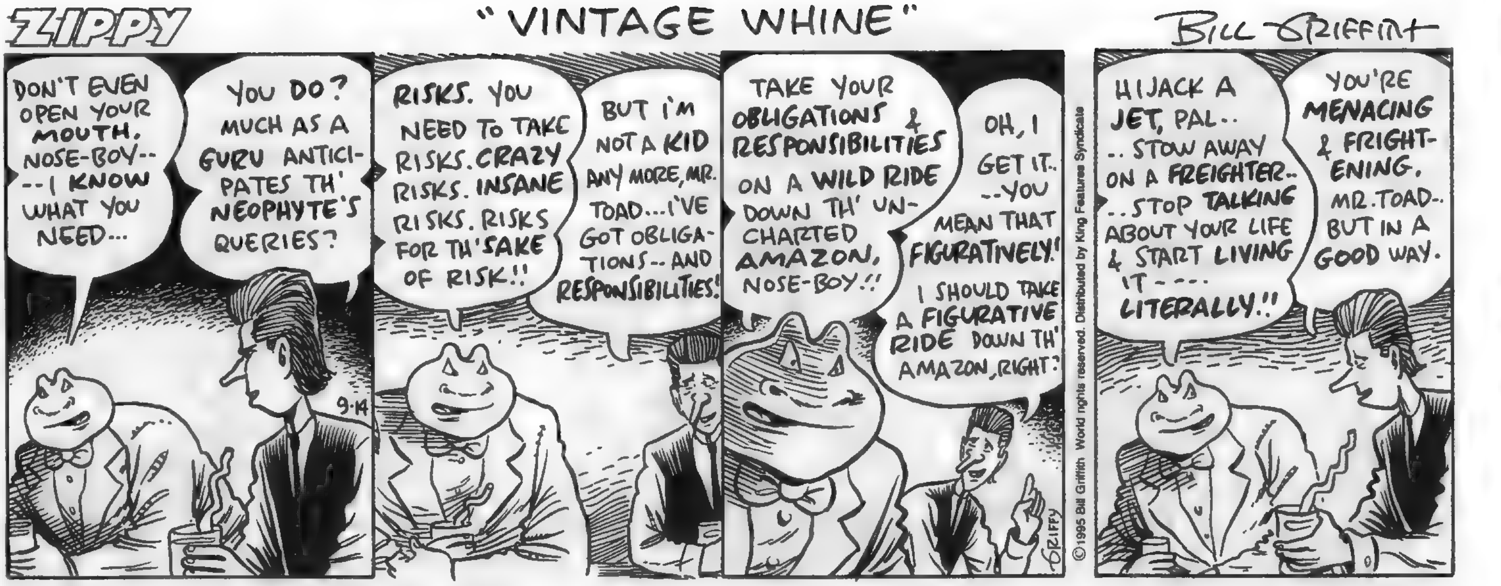
CAN I HAVE SOMETHING TO REMEMBER YOU BY?
SURE. TAKE A COMPLIMENTARY ONION RING.
9.13
PEPSI
CAJUN DOGS
ONION RINGS
I'LL NEVER FORGET YOU, DOGGIE... I'LL WEAR THIS NEXT TO MY HEART FOREVER.
YOU'RE 100% BEEF, ZIPPY..
GRIFFY


ZIPPY
"VINTAGE WHINE"
BILL GRIFFITH
DON'T EVEN OPEN YOUR MOUTH, NOSE-BOY-- --I KNOW WHAT YOU NEED...
YOU DO? MUCH AS A GURU ANTICIPATES TH' NEOPHYTE'S QUERIES?
9-14
RISKS. YOU NEED TO TAKE RISKS. CRAZY RISKS. INSANE RISKS. RISKS FOR TH' SAKE OF RISK!!
BUT I'M NOT A KID ANY MORE, MR. TOAD... I'VE GOT OBLIGATIONS-- AND RESPONSIBILITIES!
TAKE YOUR OBLIGATIONS & RESPONSIBILITIES ON A WILD RIDE DOWN TH' UNCHARTED AMAZON, NOSE-BOY!!
OH, I GET IT.. --YOU MEAN THAT FIGURATIVELY!
I SHOULD TAKE A FIGURATIVE RIDE DOWN TH' AMAZON, RIGHT?
GRIFFY
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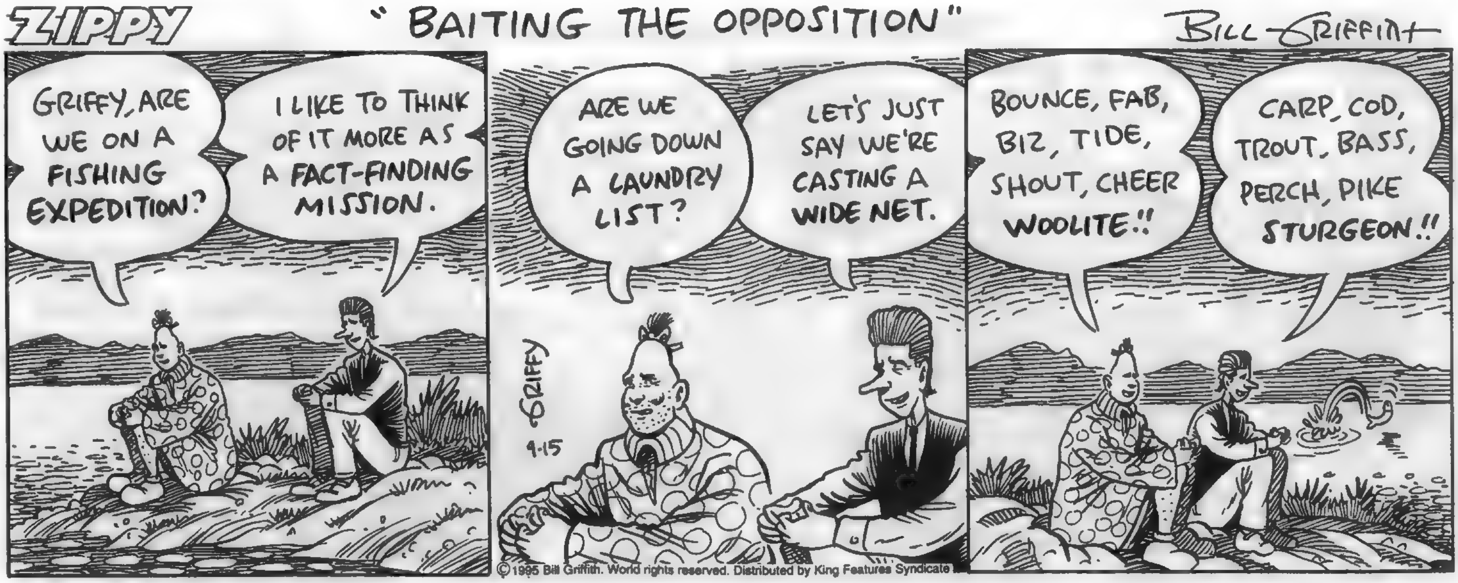
HIJACK A JET, PAL.. ..STOW AWAY ON A FREIGHTER.. ..STOP TALKING ABOUT YOUR LIFE & START LIVING IT---. LITERALLY!!
YOU'RE MENACING & FRIGHTENING, MR. TOAD.. BUT IN A GOOD WAY.


ZIPPY
"BAITING THE OPPOSITION"
BILL GRIFFITH
GRIFFY, ARE WE ON A FISHING EXPEDITION?
I LIKE TO THINK OF IT MORE AS A FACT-FINDING MISSION.
ARE WE GOING DOWN A LAUNDRY LIST?
LET'S JUST SAY WE'RE CASTING A WIDE NET.
GRIFFY
9-15
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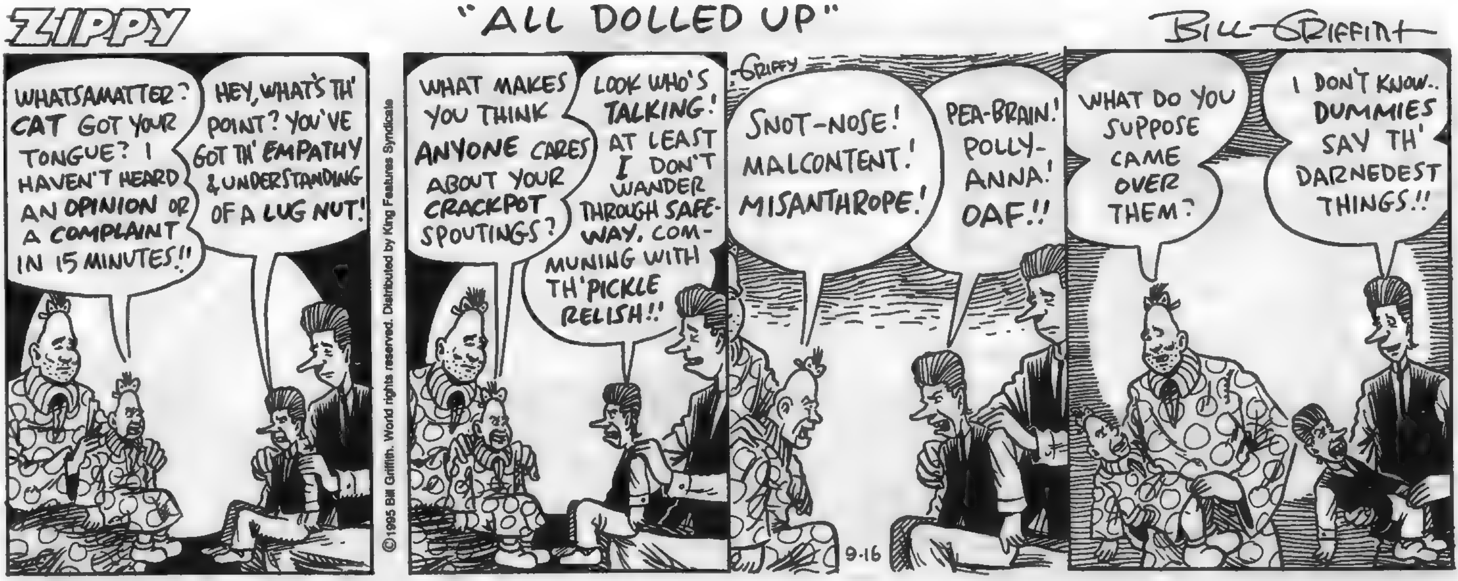
BOUNCE, FAB, BIZ, TIDE, SHOUT, CHEER WOOLITE!!
CARP, COD, TROUT, BASS, PERCH, PIKE STURGEON!!


ZIPPY
"ALL DOLLED UP"
BILL GRIFFITH
WHATSAMATTER? CAT GOT YOUR TONGUE? I HAVEN'T HEARD AN OPINION OR A COMPLAINT IN 15 MINUTES!!
HEY, WHAT'S TH' POINT? YOU'VE GOT TH' EMPATHY & UNDERSTANDING OF A LUG NUT!!
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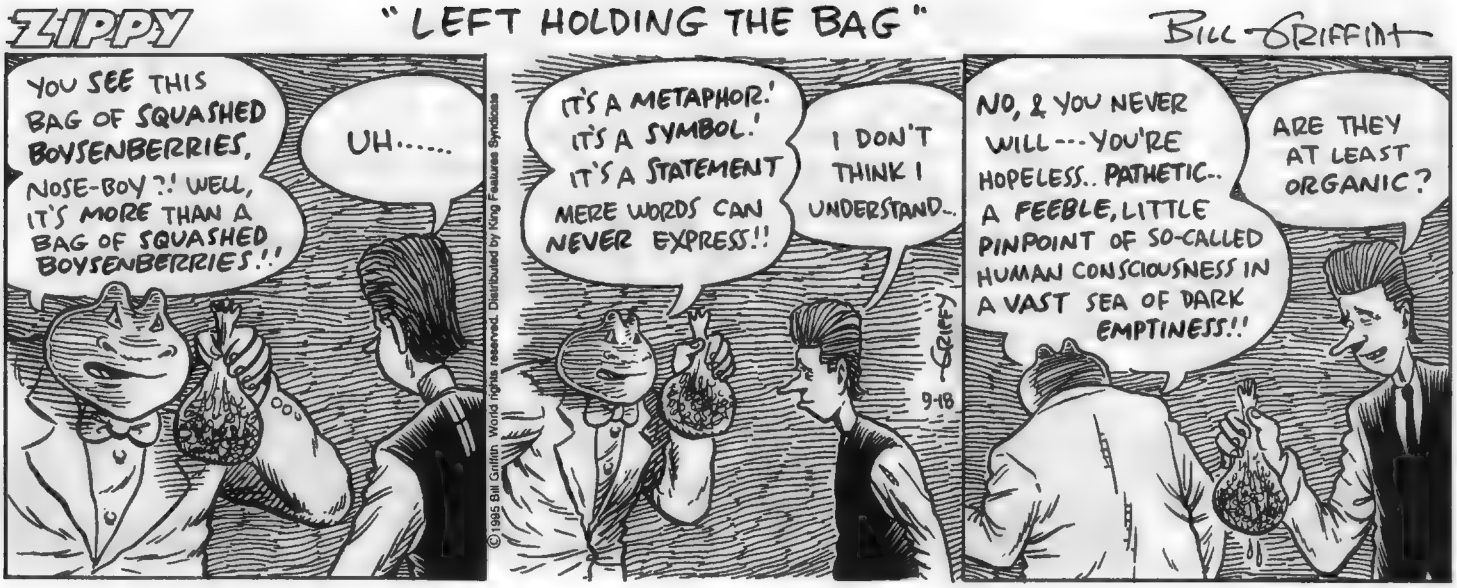
WHAT MAKES YOU THINK ANYONE CARES ABOUT YOUR CRACKPOT SPOUTINGS?
LOOK WHO'S TALKING! AT LEAST I DON'T WANDER THROUGH SAFEWAY, COMMUNING WITH TH' PICKLE RELISH!!
GRIFFY
SNOT-NOSE! MALCONTENT! MISANTHROPE!
PEA-BRAIN! POLLYANNA! OAF!!
9-16
WHAT DO YOU SUPPOSE CAME OVER THEM?
I DON'T KNOW.. DUMMIES SAY TH' DARNEDEST THINGS!!


ZIPPY
"LEFT HOLDING THE BAG"
BILL GRIFFITH
YOU SEE THIS BAG OF SQUASHED BOYSENBERRIES, NOSE-BOY?! WELL, IT'S MORE THAN A BAG OF SQUASHED BOYSENBERRIES!!
UH......
IT'S A METAPHOR! IT'S A SYMBOL! IT'S A STATEMENT MERE WORDS CAN NEVER EXPRESS!!
I DON'T THINK I UNDERSTAND..
GRIFFY 9-18
NO, & YOU NEVER WILL--- YOU'RE HOPELESS.. PATHETIC.. A FEEBLE, LITTLE PINPOINT OF SO-CALLED HUMAN CONSCIOUSNESS IN A VAST SEA OF DARK EMPTINESS!!
ARE THEY AT LEAST ORGANIC?
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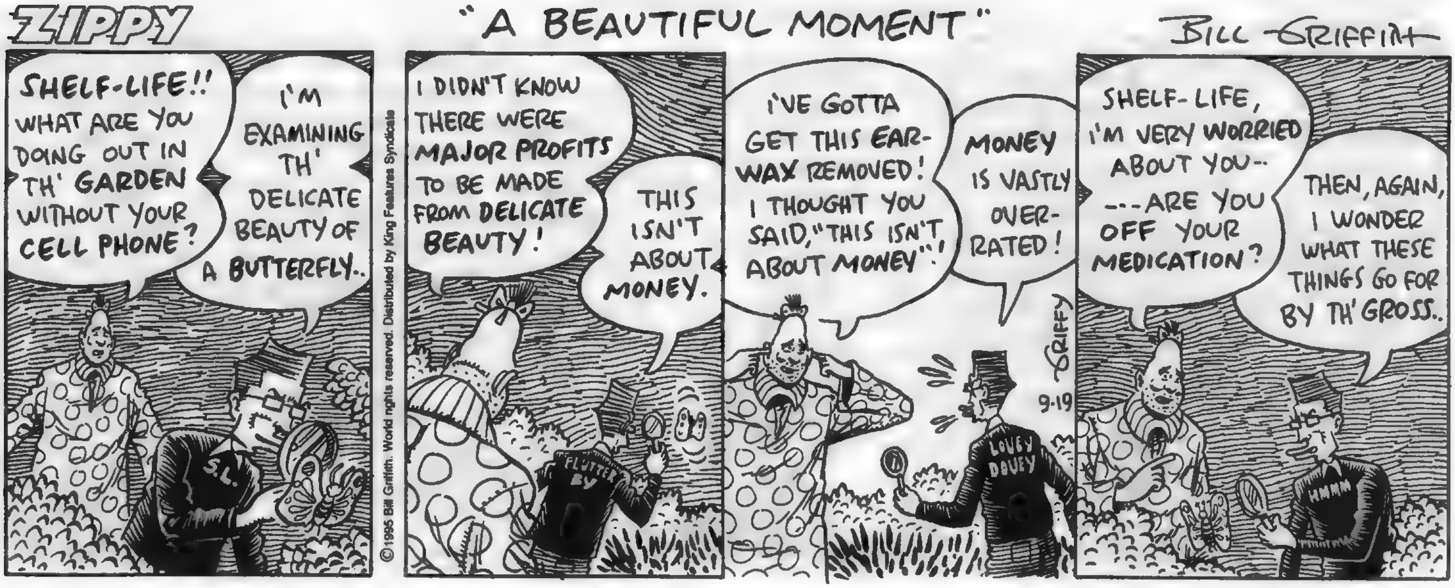
ZIPPY
"A BEAUTIFUL MOMENT"
BILL GRIFFITH
SHELF-LIFE!! WHAT ARE YOU DOING OUT IN TH' GARDEN WITHOUT YOUR CELL PHONE?
I'M EXAMINING TH' DELICATE BEAUTY OF A BUTTERFLY..
S.L.
I DIDN'T KNOW THERE WERE MAJOR PROFITS TO BE MADE FROM DELICATE BEAUTY!
THIS ISN'T ABOUT MONEY.
FLUTTER BY
I'VE GOTTA GET THIS EAR-WAX REMOVED! I THOUGHT YOU SAID, "THIS ISN'T ABOUT MONEY"!
MONEY IS VASTLY OVER-RATED!
LOVEY DOVEY
GRIFFY 9-19
SHELF-LIFE, I'M VERY WORRIED ABOUT YOU-- ---ARE YOU OFF YOUR MEDICATION?
THEN, AGAIN, I WONDER WHAT THESE THINGS GO FOR BY TH' GROSS..
HMMM
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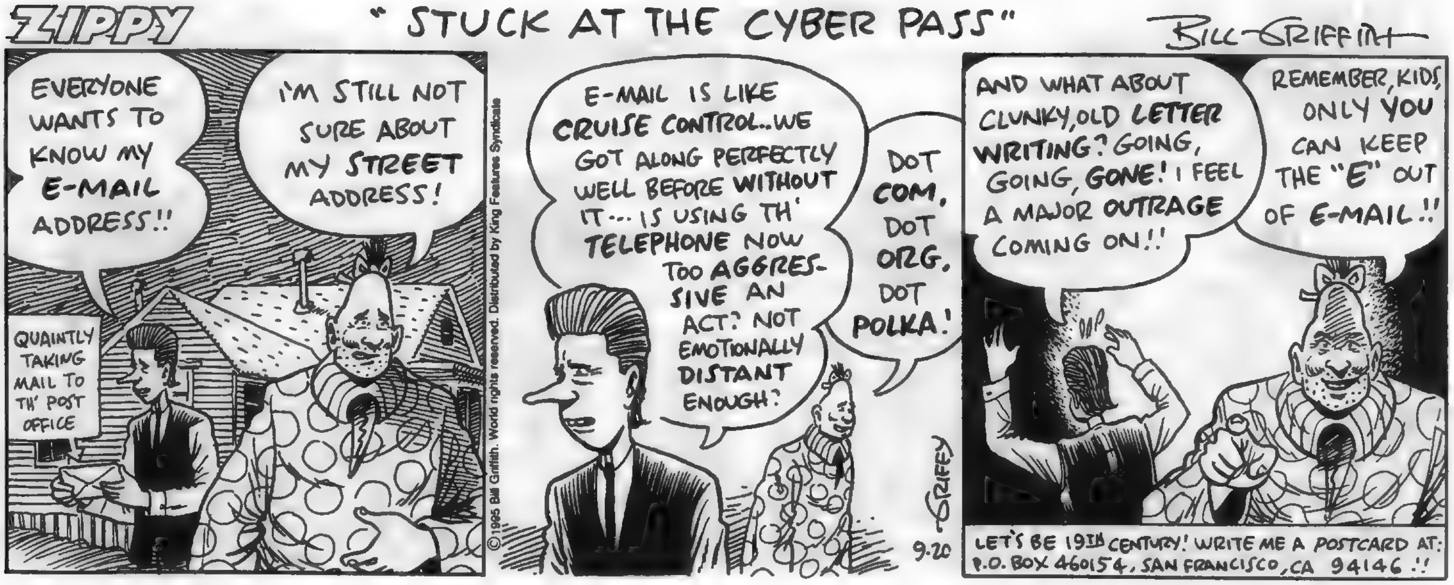
ZIPPY
"STUCK AT THE CYBER PASS"
BILL GRIFFITH
EVERYONE WANTS TO KNOW MY E-MAIL ADDRESS!!
I'M STILL NOT SURE ABOUT MY STREET ADDRESS!
QUAINTLY TAKING MAIL TO TH' POST OFFICE
E-MAIL IS LIKE CRUISE CONTROL..WE GOT ALONG PERFECTLY WELL BEFORE WITHOUT IT... IS USING TH' TELEPHONE NOW TOO AGGRESSIVE AN ACT? NOT EMOTIONALLY DISTANT ENOUGH?
DOT COM, DOT ORG, DOT POLKA!
GRIFFY 9-20
AND WHAT ABOUT CLUNKY, OLD LETTER WRITING? GOING, GOING, GONE! I FEEL A MAJOR OUTRAGE COMING ON!!
REMEMBER, KIDS, ONLY YOU CAN KEEP THE "E" OUT OF E-MAIL!!
LET'S BE 19TH CENTURY! WRITE ME A POSTCARD AT: P.O. BOX 460154, SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94146!!
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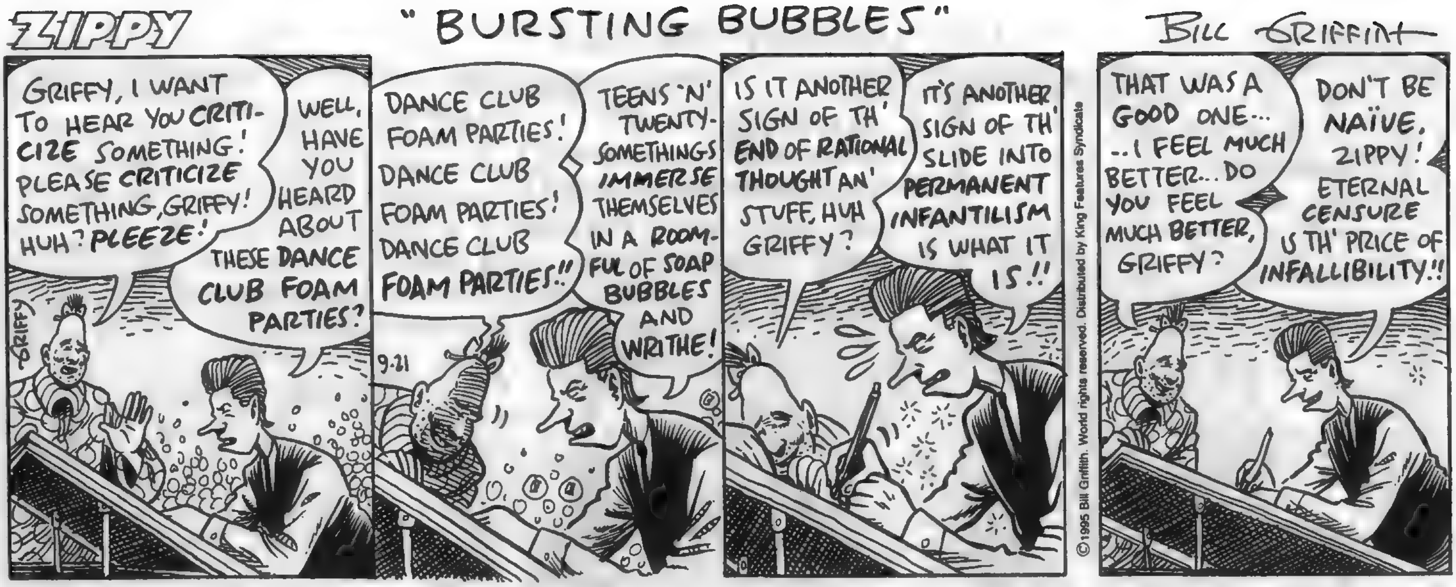
ZIPPY
"BURSTING BUBBLES"
BILL GRIFFITH
GRIFFY, I WANT TO HEAR YOU CRITICIZE SOMETHING! PLEASE CRITICIZE SOMETHING, GRIFFY! HUH? PLEEZE!
WELL, HAVE YOU HEARD ABOUT THESE DANCE CLUB FOAM PARTIES?
GRIFFY
DANCE CLUB FOAM PARTIES! DANCE CLUB FOAM PARTIES! DANCE CLUB FOAM PARTIES!!
TEENS 'N' TWENTY-SOMETHINGS IMMERSE THEMSELVES IN A ROOMFUL OF SOAP BUBBLES AND WRITHE!
9-21
IS IT ANOTHER SIGN OF TH' END OF RATIONAL THOUGHT AN' STUFF, HUH GRIFFY?
IT'S ANOTHER SIGN OF TH' SLIDE INTO PERMANENT INFANTILISM IS WHAT IT IS!!
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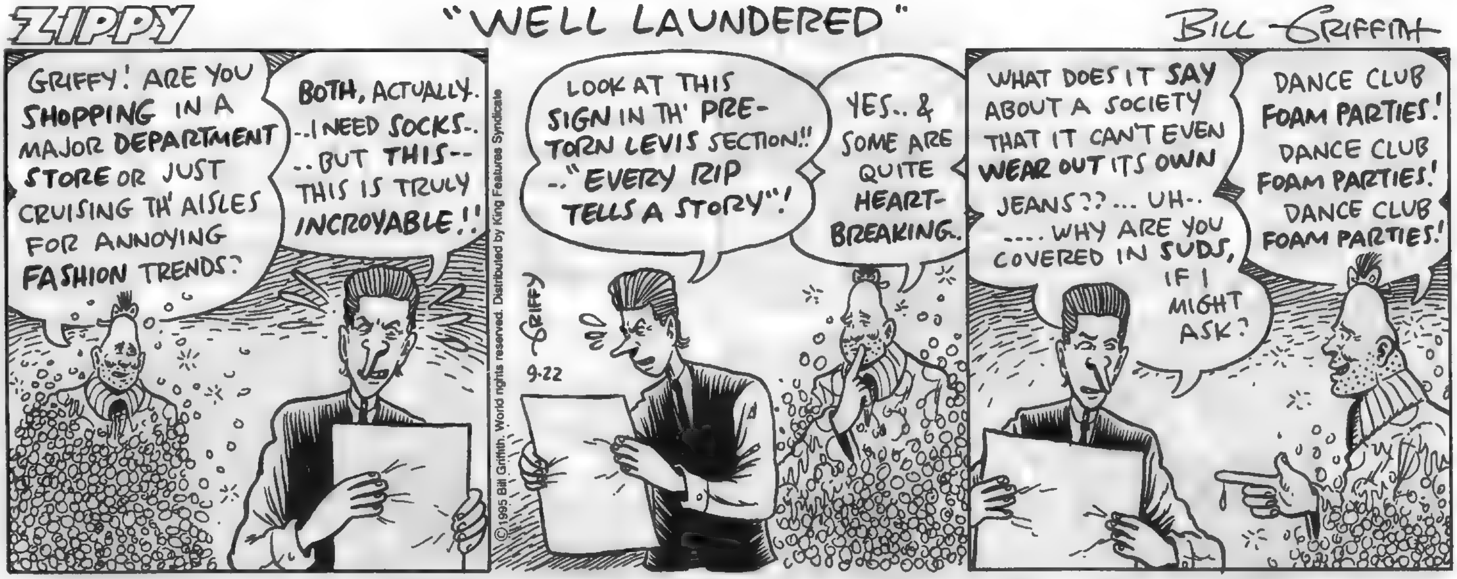
THAT WAS A GOOD ONE... ..I FEEL MUCH BETTER... DO YOU FEEL MUCH BETTER, GRIFFY?
DON'T BE NAÏVE, ZIPPY! ETERNAL CENSURE IS TH' PRICE OF INFALLIBILITY!!


ZIPPY
"WELL LAUNDERED"
BILL GRIFFITH
GRIFFY! ARE YOU SHOPPING IN A MAJOR DEPARTMENT STORE OR JUST CRUISING TH' AISLES FOR ANNOYING FASHION TRENDS?
BOTH, ACTUALLY. ..I NEED SOCKS.. ..BUT THIS-- THIS IS TRULY INCROYABLE!!
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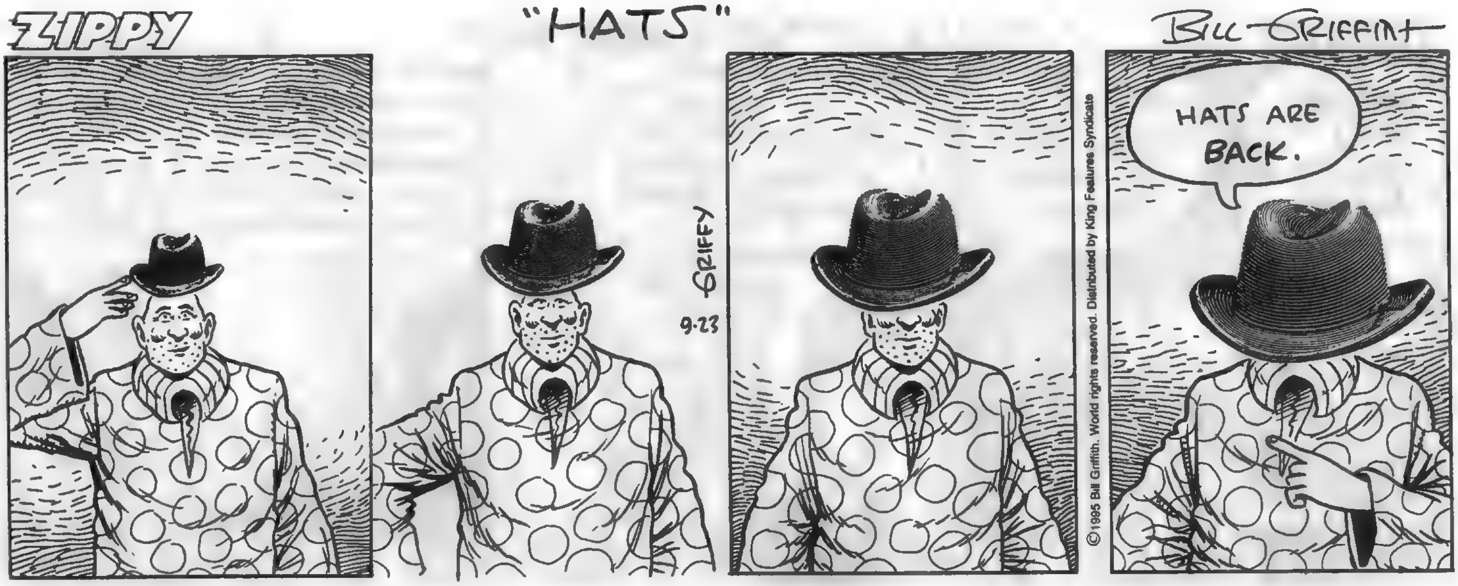
GRIFFY
9-22
LOOK AT THIS SIGN IN TH' PRE-TORN LEVIS SECTION!! --"EVERY RIP TELLS A STORY"!
YES.. & SOME ARE QUITE HEART-BREAKING..
WHAT DOES IT SAY ABOUT A SOCIETY THAT IT CAN'T EVEN WEAR OUT ITS OWN JEANS?? ... UH.. .... WHY ARE YOU COVERED IN SUDS, IF I MIGHT ASK?
DANCE CLUB FOAM PARTIES! DANCE CLUB FOAM PARTIES! DANCE CLUB FOAM PARTIES!


ZIPPY
"HATS"
BILL GRIFFITH
GRIFFY
9-23
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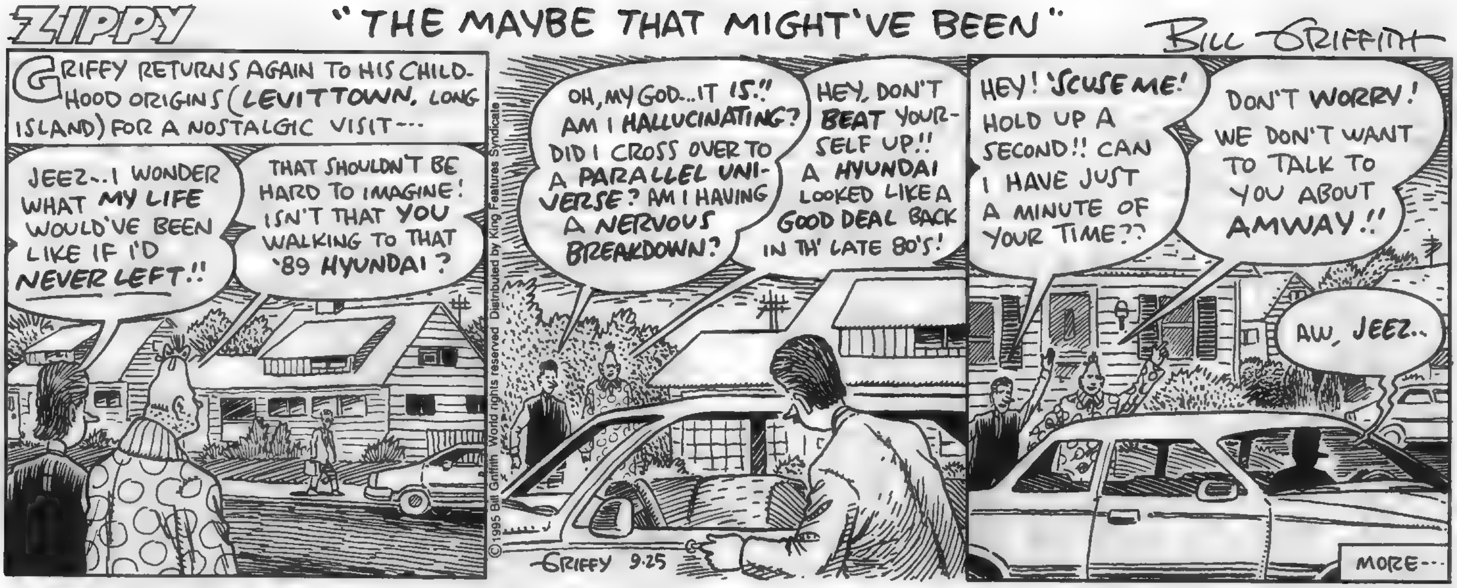
HATS ARE BACK.


ZIPPY
"THE MAYBE THAT MIGHT'VE BEEN"
BILL GRIFFITH
GRIFFY RETURNS AGAIN TO HIS CHILDHOOD ORIGINS (LEVITTOWN, LONG ISLAND) FOR A NOSTALGIC VISIT---
JEEZ..I WONDER WHAT MY LIFE WOULD'VE BEEN LIKE IF I'D NEVER LEFT!!
THAT SHOULDN'T BE HARD TO IMAGINE! ISN'T THAT YOU WALKING TO THAT '89 HYUNDAI?
OH, MY GOD...IT IS!! AM I HALLUCINATING? DID I CROSS OVER TO A PARALLEL UNIVERSE? AM I HAVING A NERVOUS BREAKDOWN?
HEY, DON'T BEAT YOURSELF UP!! A HYUNDAI LOOKED LIKE A GOOD DEAL BACK IN TH' LATE 80'S!
HEY! 'SCUSE ME! HOLD UP A SECOND!! CAN I HAVE JUST A MINUTE OF YOUR TIME??
DON'T WORRY! WE DON'T WANT TO TALK TO YOU ABOUT AMWAY!!
AW, JEEZ..
GRIFFY 9.25
MORE---
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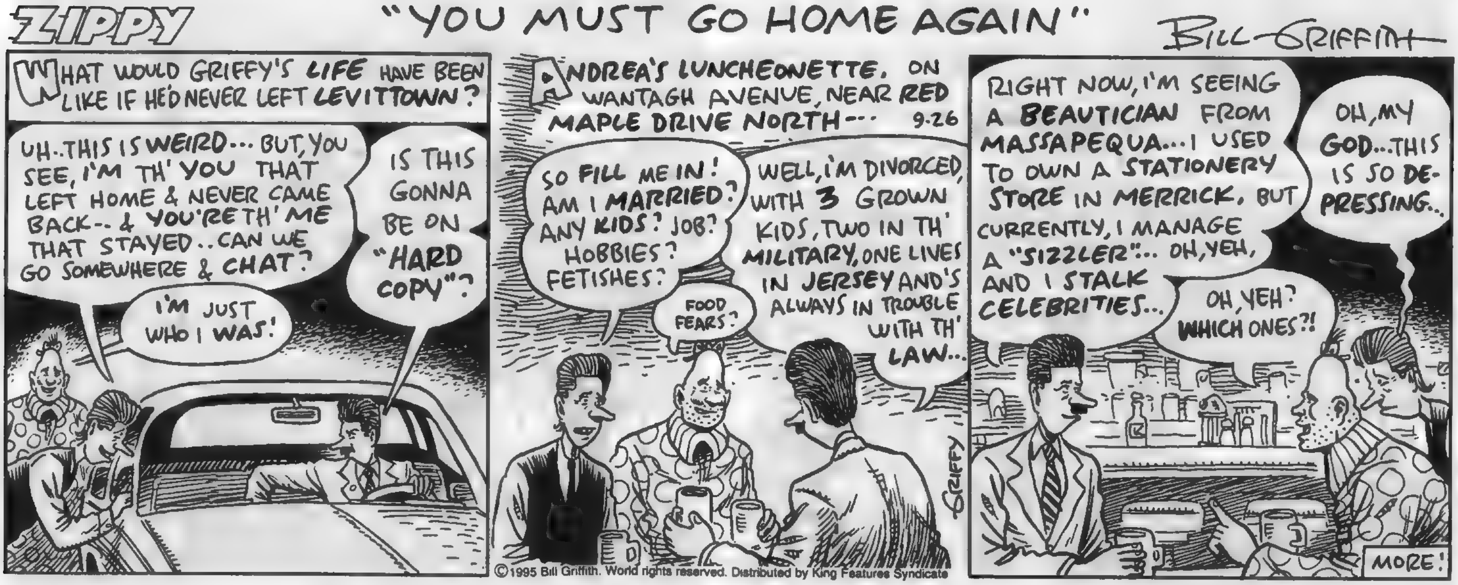
ZIPPY
"YOU MUST GO HOME AGAIN"
BILL GRIFFITH
WHAT WOULD GRIFFY'S LIFE HAVE BEEN LIKE IF HE'D NEVER LEFT LEVITTOWN?
UH..THIS IS WEIRD... BUT, YOU SEE, I'M TH' YOU THAT LEFT HOME & NEVER CAME BACK-- & YOU'RE TH' ME THAT STAYED..CAN WE GO SOMEWHERE & CHAT?
IS THIS GONNA BE ON "HARD COPY"?
I'M JUST WHO I WAS!
ANDREA'S LUNCHEONETTE, ON WANTAGH AVENUE, NEAR RED MAPLE DRIVE NORTH--- 9.26
SO FILL ME IN! AM I MARRIED? ANY KIDS? JOB? HOBBIES? FETISHES?
FOOD FEARS?
WELL, I'M DIVORCED, WITH 3 GROWN KIDS, TWO IN TH' MILITARY, ONE LIVES IN JERSEY AND'S ALWAYS IN TROUBLE WITH TH' LAW...
GRIFFY
RIGHT NOW, I'M SEEING A BEAUTICIAN FROM MASSAPEQUA...I USED TO OWN A STATIONERY STORE IN MERRICK, BUT CURRENTLY, I MANAGE A "SIZZLER".. OH, YEH, AND I STALK CELEBRITIES...
OH, MY GOD...THIS IS SO DEPRESSING..
OH, YEH? WHICH ONES?!
MORE!
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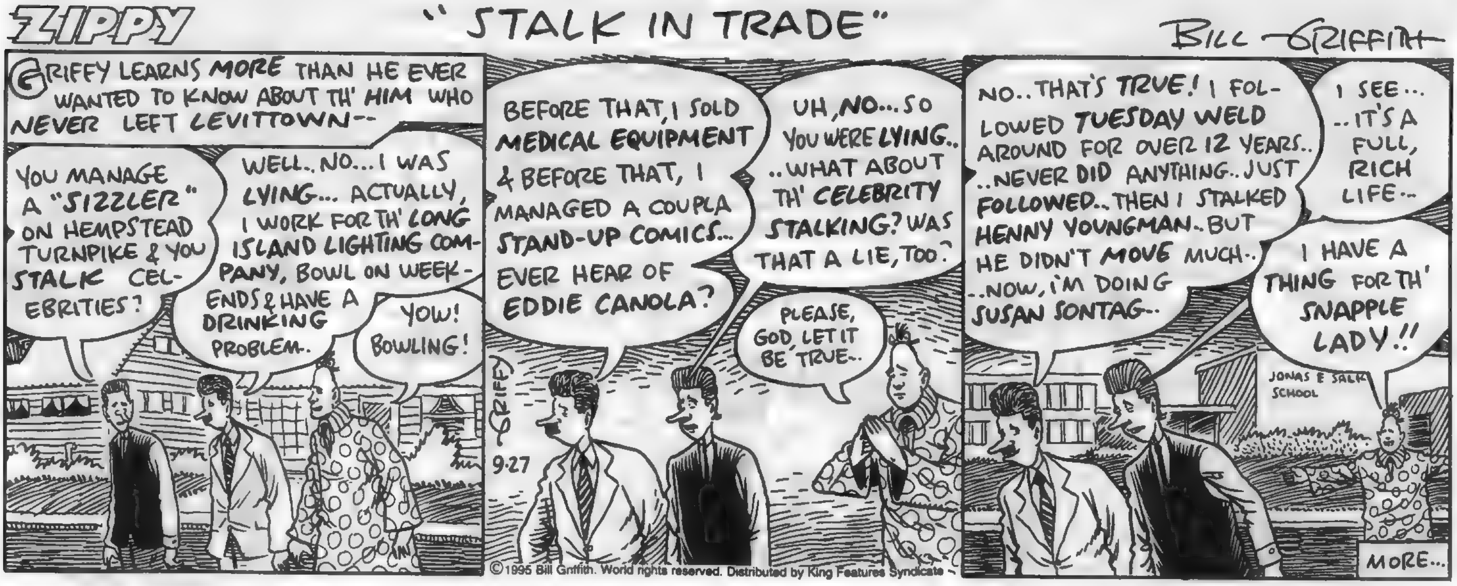
ZIPPY
"STALK IN TRADE"
BILL GRIFFITH
GRIFFY LEARNS MORE THAN HE EVER WANTED TO KNOW ABOUT TH' HIM WHO NEVER LEFT LEVITTOWN--
YOU MANAGE A "SIZZLER" ON HEMPSTEAD TURNPIKE & YOU STALK CELEBRITIES?
WELL..NO...I WAS LYING... ACTUALLY, I WORK FOR TH' LONG ISLAND LIGHTING COMPANY, BOWL ON WEEKENDS & HAVE A DRINKING PROBLEM..
YOW! BOWLING!
BEFORE THAT, I SOLD MEDICAL EQUIPMENT & BEFORE THAT, I MANAGED A COUPLA STAND-UP COMICS... EVER HEAR OF EDDIE CANOLA?
UH, NO...SO YOU WERE LYING.. ..WHAT ABOUT TH' CELEBRITY STALKING? WAS THAT A LIE, TOO?
PLEASE, GOD, LET IT BE TRUE..
GRIFFY 9.27
NO..THAT'S TRUE! I FOLLOWED TUESDAY WELD AROUND FOR OVER 12 YEARS.. ..NEVER DID ANYTHING..JUST FOLLOWED..THEN I STALKED HENNY YOUNGMAN..BUT HE DIDN'T MOVE MUCH.. ..NOW, I'M DOING SUSAN SONTAG..
I SEE... ..IT'S A FULL, RICH LIFE..
I HAVE A THING FOR TH' SNAPPLE LADY!!
JONAS E SALK SCHOOL
MORE...
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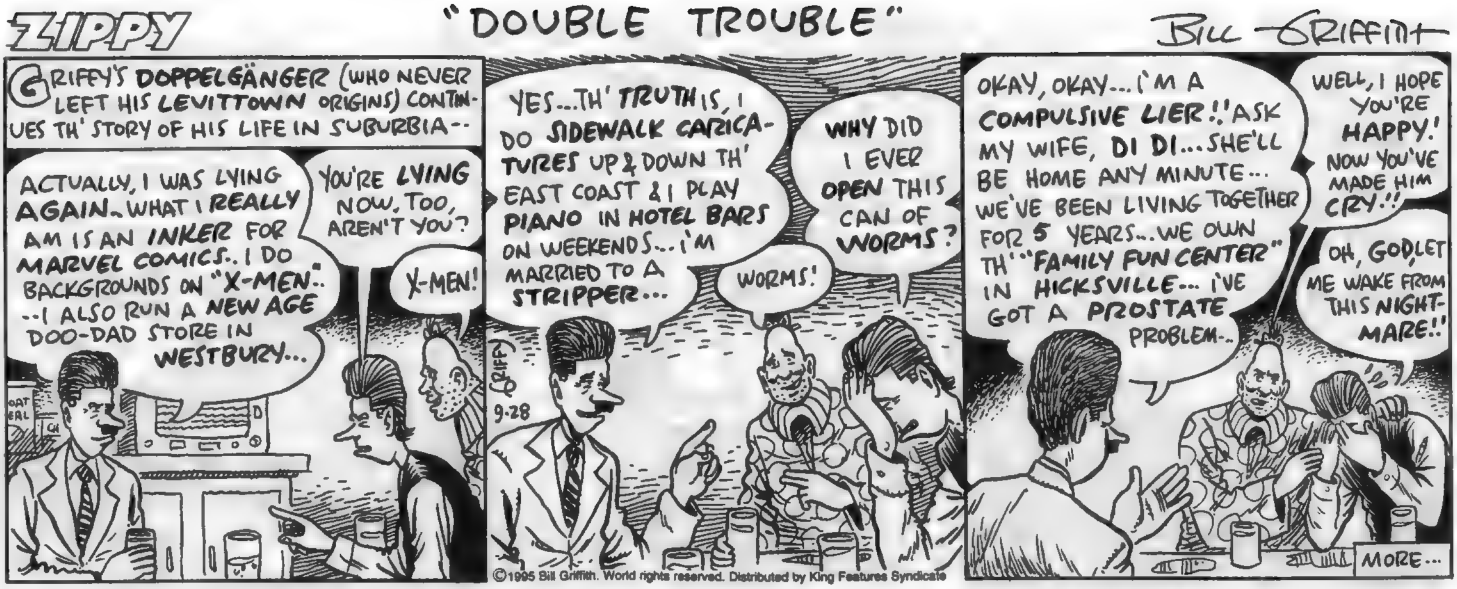
ZIPPY
"DOUBLE TROUBLE"
BILL GRIFFITH
GRIFFY'S DOPPELGÄNGER (WHO NEVER LEFT HIS LEVITTOWN ORIGINS) CONTINUES TH' STORY OF HIS LIFE IN SUBURBIA--
ACTUALLY, I WAS LYING AGAIN.. WHAT I REALLY AM IS AN INKER FOR MARVEL COMICS.. I DO BACKGROUNDS ON "X-MEN".. --I ALSO RUN A NEW AGE DOO-DAD STORE IN WESTBURY...
YOU'RE LYING NOW, TOO, AREN'T YOU?
X-MEN!
YES...TH' TRUTH IS, I DO SIDEWALK CARICATURES UP & DOWN TH' EAST COAST & I PLAY PIANO IN HOTEL BARS ON WEEKENDS... I'M MARRIED TO A STRIPPER...
WHY DID I EVER OPEN THIS CAN OF WORMS?
WORMS!
GRIFFY
9-28
OKAY, OKAY... I'M A COMPULSIVE LIER!! ASK MY WIFE, DI DI... SHE'LL BE HOME ANY MINUTE... WE'VE BEEN LIVING TOGETHER FOR 5 YEARS... WE OWN TH' "FAMILY FUN CENTER" IN HICKSVILLE... I'VE GOT A PROSTATE PROBLEM..
WELL, I HOPE YOU'RE HAPPY! NOW YOU'VE MADE HIM CRY!!
OH, GOD, LET ME WAKE FROM THIS NIGHTMARE!!
MORE...

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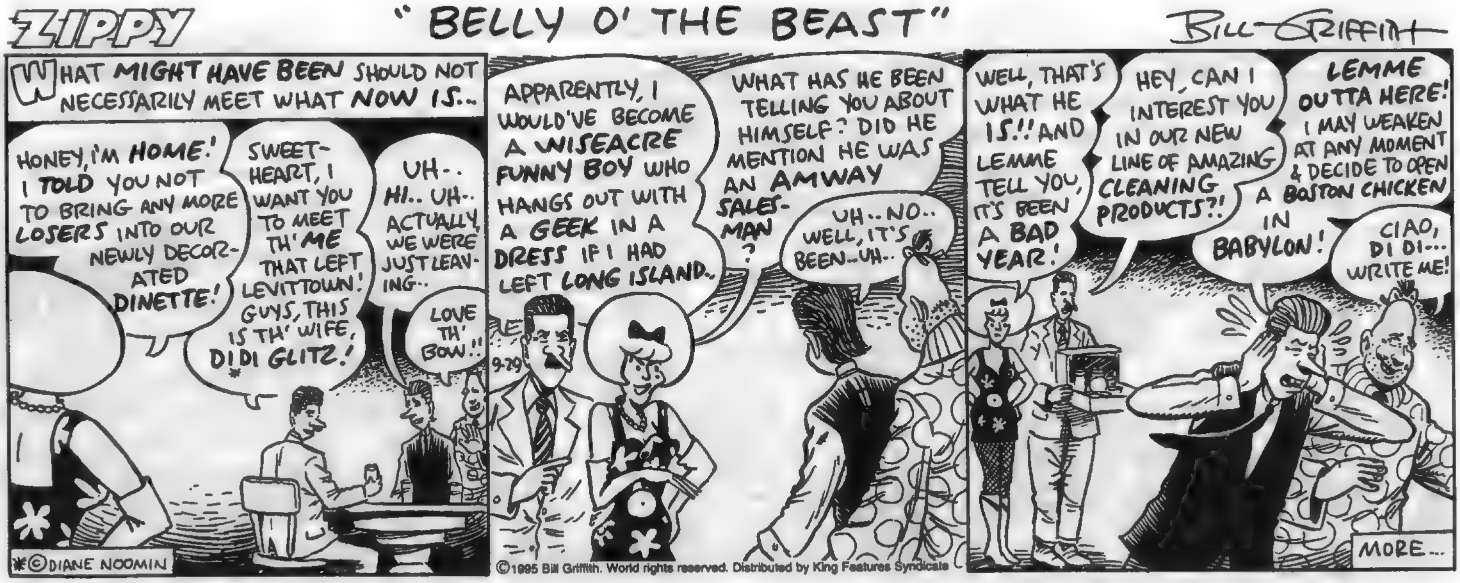
ZIPPY
"BELLY O' THE BEAST"
BILL GRIFFITH
WHAT MIGHT HAVE BEEN SHOULD NOT NECESSARILY MEET WHAT NOW IS..
HONEY, I'M HOME! I TOLD YOU NOT TO BRING ANY MORE LOSERS INTO OUR NEWLY DECORATED DINETTE!
SWEETHEART, I WANT YOU TO MEET TH' ME THAT LEFT LEVITTOWN! GUYS, THIS IS TH' WIFE, DI DI GLITZ!*
UH.. HI.. UH.. ACTUALLY, WE WERE JUST LEAVING..
LOVE TH' BOW!!
APPARENTLY, I WOULD'VE BECOME A WISEACRE FUNNY BOY WHO HANGS OUT WITH A GEEK IN A DRESS IF I HAD LEFT LONG ISLAND..
WHAT HAS HE BEEN TELLING YOU ABOUT HIMSELF? DID HE MENTION HE WAS AN AMWAY SALESMAN?
UH.. NO.. WELL, IT'S BEEN..UH..
9-29
WELL, THAT'S WHAT HE IS!! AND LEMME TELL YOU, IT'S BEEN A BAD YEAR!
HEY, CAN I INTEREST YOU IN OUR NEW LINE OF AMAZING CLEANING PRODUCTS?!
LEMME OUTTA HERE! I MAY WEAKEN AT ANY MOMENT & DECIDE TO OPEN A BOSTON CHICKEN IN BABYLON!
CIAO, DI DI... WRITE ME!
MORE...

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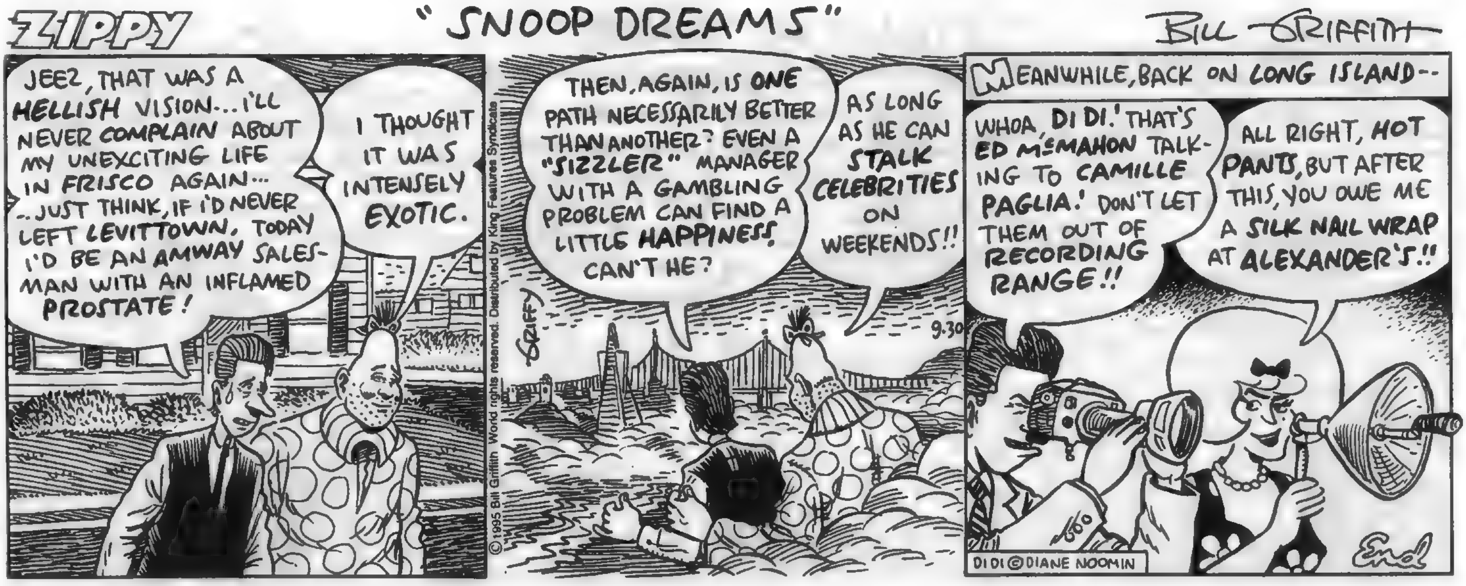
ZIPPY
"SNOOP DREAMS"
BILL GRIFFITH
JEEZ, THAT WAS A HELLISH VISION... I'LL NEVER COMPLAIN ABOUT MY UNEXCITING LIFE IN FRISCO AGAIN... ..JUST THINK, IF I'D NEVER LEFT LEVITTOWN, TODAY I'D BE AN AMWAY SALESMAN WITH AN INFLAMED PROSTATE!
I THOUGHT IT WAS INTENSELY EXOTIC.
THEN, AGAIN, IS ONE PATH NECESSARILY BETTER THAN ANOTHER? EVEN A "SIZZLER" MANAGER WITH A GAMBLING PROBLEM CAN FIND A LITTLE HAPPINESS, CAN'T HE?
AS LONG AS HE CAN STALK CELEBRITIES ON WEEKENDS!!
GRIFFY
9-30
MEANWHILE, BACK ON LONG ISLAND--
WHOA, DI DI! THAT'S ED McMAHON TALKING TO CAMILLE PAGLIA! DON'T LET THEM OUT OF RECORDING RANGE!!
ALL RIGHT, HOT PANTS, BUT AFTER THIS, YOU OWE ME A SILK NAIL WRAP AT ALEXANDER'S!!
End

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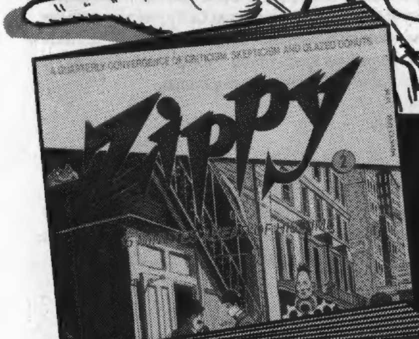
DI DI ©DIANE NOOMIN

READ ZIPPY... WEAR ZIPPY... BE ZIPPY!

IT'S E-Z WITH THIS NEW "PINHEAD POWER" 12-STEP PROGRAM!!
WE ENROLLED & NOW WE'RE SMARTER, RICHER & POSSESS AMAZING PSYCHIC ABILITIES!!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Zippy

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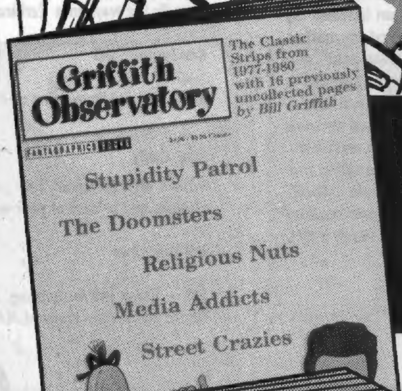
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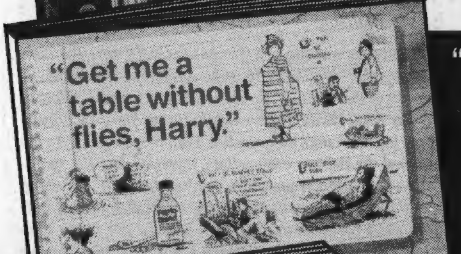
"Get me a table without flies, Harry."

"GET ME A TABLE WITHOUT FLIES, HARRY"

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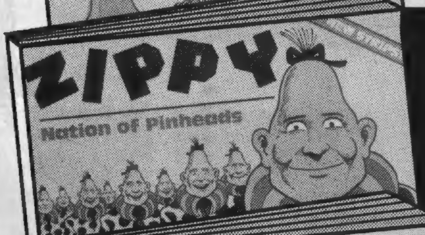
ZIPPY
Nation of Pinheads

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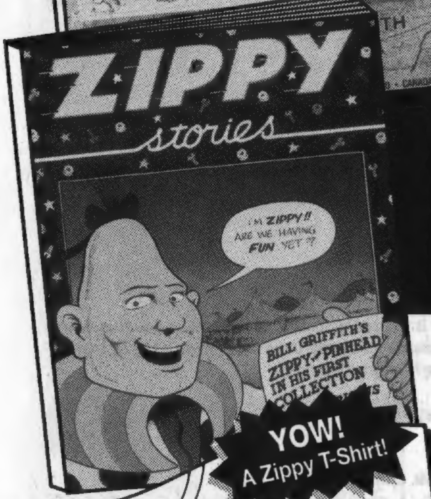
Compact, Garfield-collection-format paperbacks camouflage mordant *Zippy* strips galore!


ZIPPY stories
I'M ZIPPY!! ARE WE HAVING FUN YET??
BILL GRIFFITH'S ZIPPY the PINHEAD IN HIS FIRST COLLECTION
YOW! A Zippy T-Shirt!

ZIPPY STORIES

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Bill Griffith
FANTAGRAPHICS BOOKS
54 MONTHS OF SUNDAYS

ZIPPY'S HOUSE OF FUN

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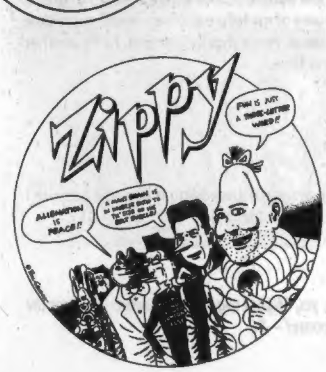
Zippy
PIN IS JUST A THREE-LETTER WORD!
ALIENATION IS PEACE!!

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ZIPCODE

Address all emotional outpourings to: PINHEAD PRODUCTIONS, P.O. BOX 460154, San Francisco, CA 94146.

Dear Mr. Griffith,

Me and my pals all loved your Jerry Lewis piece in *The New Yorker*. I laughed out loud on the subway reading it, which is pretty embarrassing. The color sketchbook (ZQ #10) is fantastic, but I just can't tell you how moved I was by your black and white Cuba stuff. Regarding Zippy: Twelve years ago, when I was 15 and my parents, who had remained married for 20 years (apparently to more effectively torture us kids) were separating, we had to go on one last "family trip" together in the Sierra. I had worn my "Are we having fun yet?" lapel pin, which I did not realize was a Zippy quote. When the "family fun trip" failed to remedy the years of bitter excoriation between my parents and the divorce papers were finally served, my mother, who has hidden irrationality for years behind the public persona of an emotionless Chinese anesthesiologist, snapped at me, saying it was all my fault that things hadn't worked because I hadn't tried hard enough. When I expressed my usual puzzlement over her statement, she spun around and hissed, "It was that stupid button that you wore on the skiing trip: 'Are we having fun yet?' What kind of an attitude is that?" You've wormed your way, Mr. Griffith, into the subconscious minds and the divorce proceedings of people you've never met. Well done!

Eva Chrysanthe

Dear Bill Griffith,

So how does it feel to be lugging around the entire weight of good daily newspaper comic strips on your shoulders anyway? Oh, how I beg and plead with my boss at the Saskatoon *Star Phoenix* to carry *Zippy*, but to no avail.

David Collier

Dear Mr. Griffith,

Newt Gingrich makes Mr. Toad look positively saintly. The country is being Balkanized and is heading for the precipice.

Bernard Ross

Dear Bill,

Since it's impossible to get a daily dose of Zippy in the French newspapers, it's always a blessing to receive the *Zippy Quarterlies*. You've got a small readership here in nuclear France, but a devoted one! I enjoyed the Cuban strips. It's by all means some of the best work you've ever done. I found your report witty, funny, warm and yes, moving. The Cuban people seem to be worth knowing.

Jean-Pierre Mercier

Dear Mr. Griffith,

I would deeply appreciate it if you could please send me a Zippy sketch or signed cartoon. I would frame it and put it on my bedroom wall right next to my Jim Carrey poster.

Lane Helmueller

Griffith-san,

Did you know that in the movie, *The Never-ending Story*, one of the bully kids is wearing a Zippy t-shirt? Did you plan that? And a little while ago, you did the comic strip with Mr. Toad and Griffy; topic: guilt at the gas station (ZQ #11). Wow! Loving to cruise is one of the big reasons I hate myself! You know exactly how I feel! Man, you're just too much.

Jillian St. Andre

Dear Bill,

I learn more from your strip than from the daytime talk shows. Are you the Unabomber?

Frank Green

Dear Bill,

I try hard to understand *Zippy*, but I don't. Am I wrong?

Chuck Malacarne

Chuck — No. Give it time. One day you'll wake up and tie your eight remaining hairs in a bright, red bow. —BG

Hi Griffy!

I heard your cry for help. I feel your pain. I want you to know I care. By the way, does Zerbina have a sister?

Ken Hippensteel

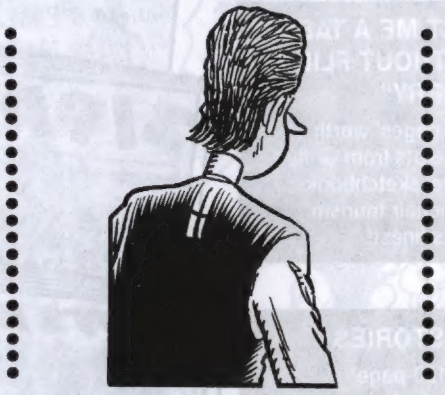
Ken — No. But I'm working on it. —BG

Dear Griffy,

What's with the small, four-paned window that occasionally appears on the back of your vest?

Jeff Hoelscher

Jeff — Thank you for noticing. It's the window in my studio, reflected on the shiny material. It follows me everywhere. —BG



Dear Mr. Griffith,

I've wanted to write you ever since your series on "How to Read This Comic Strip" (ZQ #11). I'm continually proselytizing for *Zippy* and welcome any new tools, but it didn't help. When I handed it to a few friends, they just looked blank. I felt like one of those earnest people who knock on doors early Saturday morning — strong in their belief that, through reasoned argument, they can convince unbelievers of the existence of God. Maybe we should set up a tent somewhere and stage a revival. Let's see, there's Youth for Christ, Jews for Jesus... How about "Zealots for Zippy"?

Emily Griffin

Emily — Sounds inspiring. Now let's get an 800 number! —BG

Dear Griffy,

I once had a pair of pythons named Zippy and Zerbina. Zippy was 15 feet long and Zerbina was 17 feet. Unfortunately, they had to leave. I am allergic to rabbits and chickens, so I got sick every time I fed them.

Dan Seely

Dear Mr. Griffy,

Your strip is pithy, terse, literate, spot on, a cut above the rest. Because it is so entertaining and insightful, it is my favorite, and therefore doomed.

Ken

Hello Bill,

Zippy would definitely appreciate the "anagram server" at http://www.infobahn.com/pages/anagram.html. Samples attached. Hazy dip pen tip he, Deep hazy pith pin, Zenith day pep hip, Tipped hazy pin he.

Janet Goldenberg

Dear Griffy and Zippy,

It was nice to see DiDi Glitz (© Diane Noomin) make an appearance in the recent *Zippy* strips as Griffy meets up with the Griffy he would have been had he not been a cartoonist. Please let Diane know how much I liked *Twisted Sisters*. Also, please don't make a movie of your lives like Crumb.

Harry and Ace

Zipmeister,

I read your strip daily and I must say that I like about 10% of them. Too much of it reminds me of my brother who is always complaining about things in general.

Connie Radoulovitch

Dear Mr. Griffith,

I am currently working as a chiropractor in Tel-Aviv. The same day I received cable TV, the Super Bowl was broadcast. Although I am not of the "dirtball" persuasion, I am a former resident of the Bay Area. Hence, I was eager to watch Steve Young step out of Joe Montana's long shadow. Even though I couldn't understand the Hebrew commentary, it was obvious the sportscasters hadn't the vaguest idea of what the game was about. One of the announcers painted a "49" on his shaved head. Only once was a full sentence uttered in English. One of the commentators looked full-face into the camera and said, "Are we having fun yet?"

William Finn, D.C.

Dear Bill,

Rush Limbaugh as Goebbels — Disneyfied. Colin Powell as Farrakhan — Disneyfied. Michael Jackson as Michael Jackson — Disneyfied. Zippy as Moses — Disneyfied.

Ismael

Dear Bill,

Griffy is sad and neurotic. There's more real stuff in *Dilbert*. Even *Blondie's* more real these days. Where is the *Zippy* of yesteryear? Griffy is a bummer!

Herbert Sundvall

Dear Mr. Griffith,

I saved and Xeroxed your series on Levittown, L.I. (ZQ #1) and brought them to the Middle School where I teach 7th grade, in the hope that some of my fellow teachers would appreciate their wonderful humor. Not a chuckle. Oh well. I'll try another group of them next time.

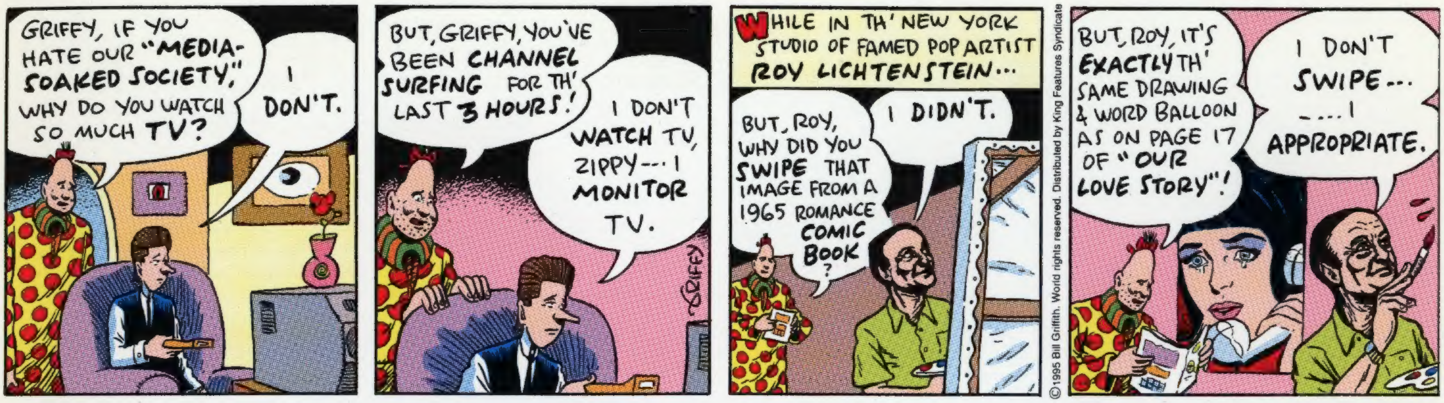
A. Gifford

Dear Bill,

Do you think my engagement/wedding is doomed because I like *Zippy* and my fiancée doesn't?

J. Carlson

J. — Unfortunately, yes. Might I suggest a gift subscription for the benighted future spouse? —BG


GRIFFY, IF YOU HATE OUR "MEDIA-SOAKED SOCIETY," WHY DO YOU WATCH SO MUCH TV?
I DON'T.
BUT, GRIFFY, YOU'VE BEEN CHANNEL SURFING FOR TH' LAST 3 HOURS!
I DON'T WATCH TV, ZIPPY--- I MONITOR TV.
GRIFFY
WHILE IN TH' NEW YORK STUDIO OF FAMED POP ARTIST ROY LICHTENSTEIN...
BUT, ROY, WHY DID YOU SWIPE THAT IMAGE FROM A 1965 ROMANCE COMIC BOOK?
I DIDN'T.
BUT, ROY, IT'S EXACTLY TH' SAME DRAWING & WORD BALLOON AS ON PAGE 17 OF "OUR LOVE STORY"!
I DON'T SWIPE... ...I APPROPRIATE.
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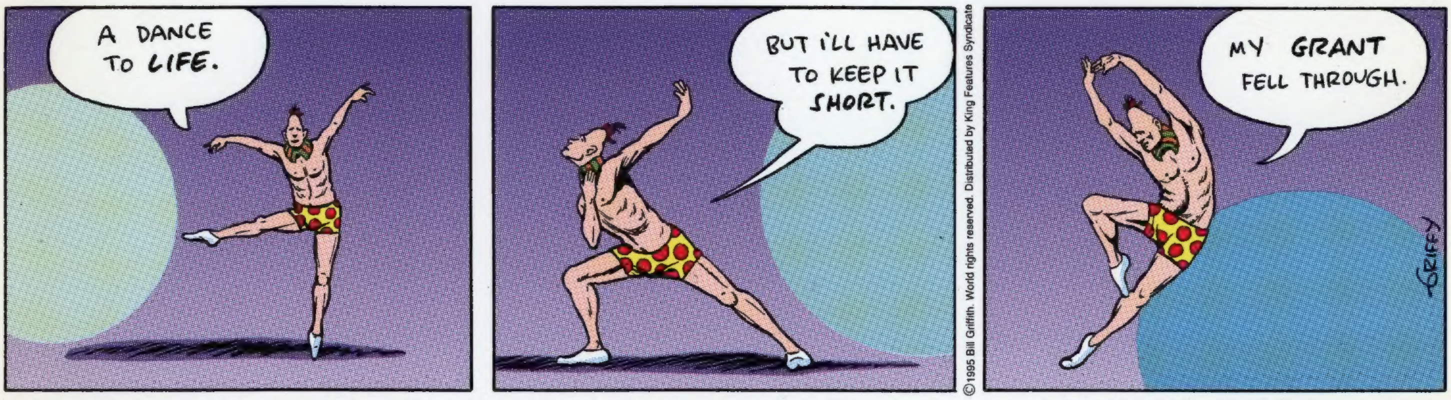
A DANCE TO LIFE.
BUT I'LL HAVE TO KEEP IT SHORT.
MY GRANT FELL THROUGH.
GRIFFY
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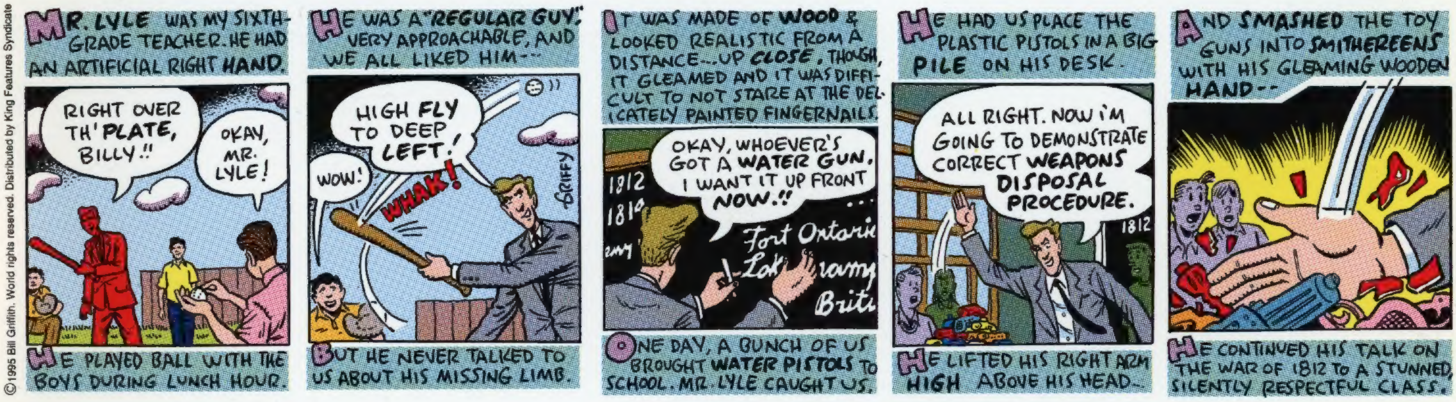
MR. LYLE WAS MY SIXTH-GRADE TEACHER. HE HAD AN ARTIFICIAL RIGHT HAND.
RIGHT OVER TH' PLATE, BILLY.!!
OKAY, MR. LYLE!
HE PLAYED BALL WITH THE BOYS DURING LUNCH HOUR.
HE WAS A "REGULAR GUY." VERY APPROACHABLE, AND WE ALL LIKED HIM--
HIGH FLY TO DEEP LEFT!
WOW!
WHAK!
GRIFFY
BUT HE NEVER TALKED TO US ABOUT HIS MISSING LIMB.
IT WAS MADE OF WOOD & LOOKED REALISTIC FROM A DISTANCE...UP CLOSE, THOUGH, IT GLEAMED AND IT WAS DIFFICULT TO NOT STARE AT THE DELICATELY PAINTED FINGERNAILS.
OKAY, WHOEVER'S GOT A WATER GUN, I WANT IT UP FRONT NOW.!!
1812
Fort Ontario
ONE DAY, A BUNCH OF US BROUGHT WATER PISTOLS TO SCHOOL. MR. LYLE CAUGHT US.
HE HAD US PLACE THE PLASTIC PISTOLS IN A BIG PILE ON HIS DESK.
ALL RIGHT. NOW I'M GOING TO DEMONSTRATE CORRECT WEAPONS DISPOSAL PROCEDURE.
1812
HE LIFTED HIS RIGHT ARM HIGH ABOVE HIS HEAD..
AND SMASHED THE TOY GUNS INTO SMITHEREENS WITH HIS GLEAMING WOODEN HAND--
HE CONTINUED HIS TALK ON THE WAR OF 1812 TO A STUNNED, SILENTLY RESPECTFUL CLASS.
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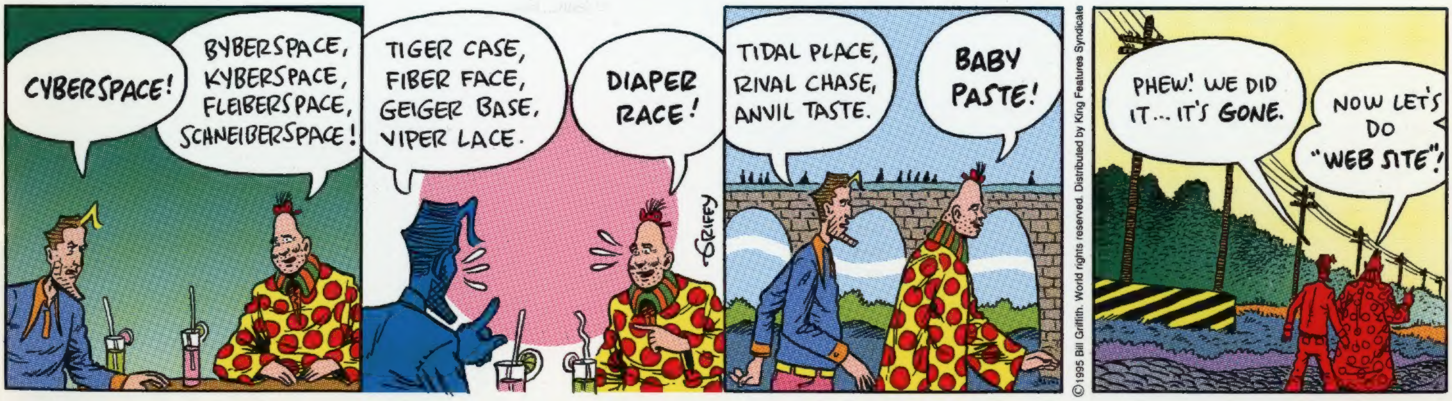
CYBERSPACE!
BYBERSPACE, KYBERSPACE, FLEIBERSPACE, SCHNEIBERSPACE!
TIGER CASE, FIBER FACE, GEIGER BASE, VIPER LACE.
DIAPER RACE!
GRIFFY
TIDAL PLACE, RIVAL CHASE, ANVIL TASTE.
BABY PASTE!
PHEW! WE DID IT... IT'S GONE.
NOW LET'S DO "WEB SITE"!
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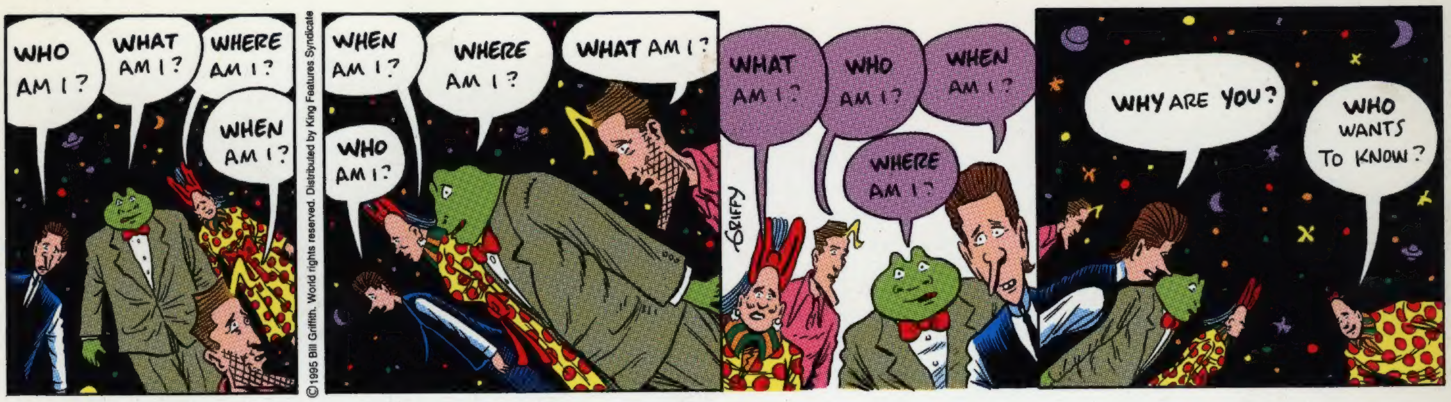
WHO AM I?
WHAT AM I?
WHERE AM I?
WHEN AM I?
WHEN AM I?
WHERE AM I?
WHAT AM I?
WHO AM I?
WHAT AM I?
WHO AM I?
WHEN AM I?
WHERE AM I?
GRIFFY
WHY ARE YOU?
WHO WANTS TO KNOW?

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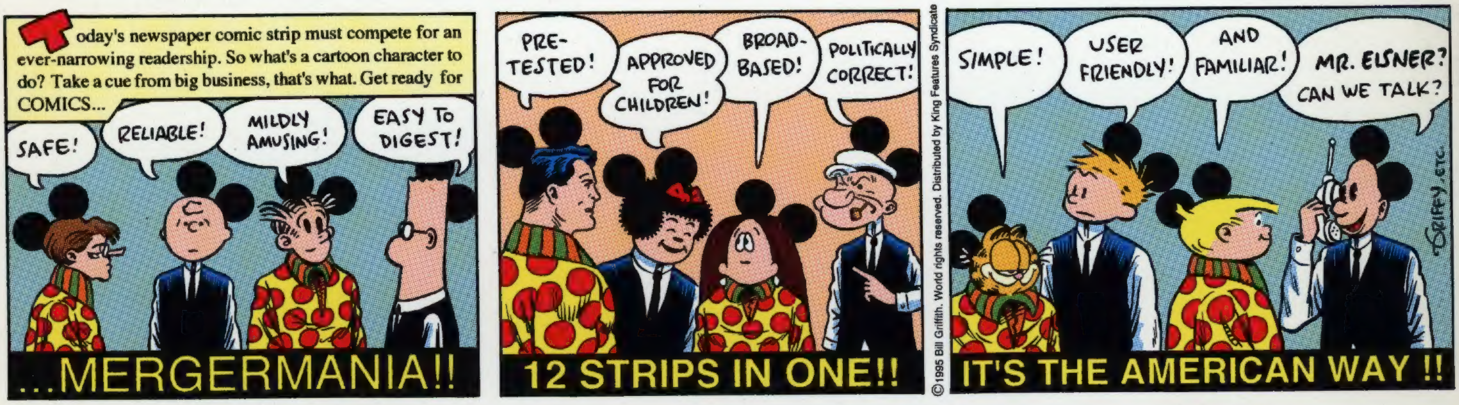
Today's newspaper comic strip must compete for an ever-narrowing readership. So what's a cartoon character to do? Take a cue from big business, that's what. Get ready for COMICS...
SAFE!
RELIABLE!
MILDLY AMUSING!
EASY TO DIGEST!
...MERGERMANIA!!
PRE-TESTED!
APPROVED FOR CHILDREN!
BROAD-BASED!
POLITICALLY CORRECT!
12 STRIPS IN ONE!!
SIMPLE!
USER FRIENDLY!
AND FAMILIAR!
MR. EISNER? CAN WE TALK?
GRIFFY. ETC.
IT'S THE AMERICAN WAY !!

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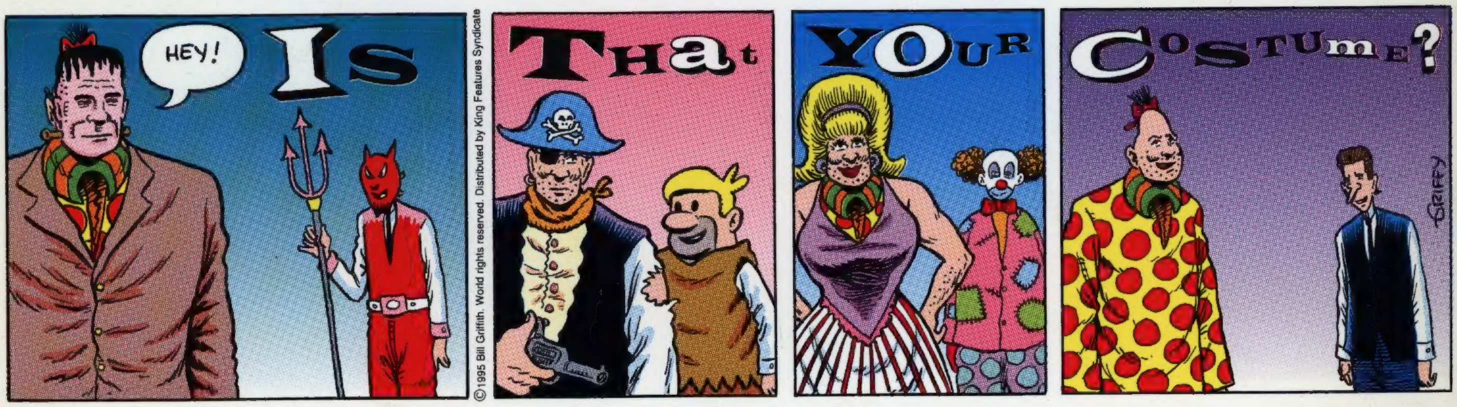
HEY!
IS
THAT
YOUR
COSTUME?
GRIFFY

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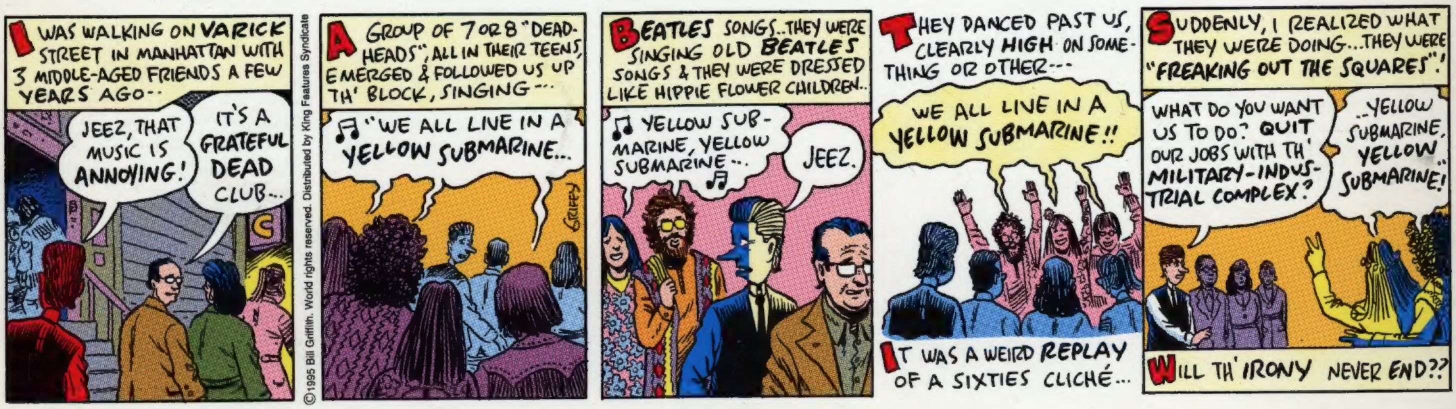
I WAS WALKING ON VARICK STREET IN MANHATTAN WITH 3 MIDDLE-AGED FRIENDS A FEW YEARS AGO--
JEEZ, THAT MUSIC IS ANNOYING!
IT'S A GRATEFUL DEAD CLUB...
A GROUP OF 7 OR 8 "DEAD-HEADS", ALL IN THEIR TEENS, EMERGED & FOLLOWED US UP TH' BLOCK, SINGING---
♫ "WE ALL LIVE IN A YELLOW SUBMARINE...
GRIFFY
BEATLES SONGS..THEY WERE SINGING OLD BEATLES SONGS & THEY WERE DRESSED LIKE HIPPIE FLOWER CHILDREN..
♫ YELLOW SUB-MARINE, YELLOW SUBMARINE-- ♫
JEEZ.
THEY DANCED PAST US, CLEARLY HIGH ON SOME-THING OR OTHER---
WE ALL LIVE IN A YELLOW SUBMARINE!!
IT WAS A WEIRD REPLAY OF A SIXTIES CLICHÉ...
SUDDENLY, I REALIZED WHAT THEY WERE DOING...THEY WERE "FREAKING OUT THE SQUARES".'
WHAT DO YOU WANT US TO DO? QUIT OUR JOBS WITH TH' MILITARY-INDUS-TRIAL COMPLEX?
..YELLOW SUBMARINE, YELLOW SUBMARINE!
WILL TH' IRONY NEVER END??

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▶ **48 Hours** (9 p.m., Ch. 5) presents "Are We Having Fun Yet?" (Bill Griffith, call your lawyer), a look at disastrous vacations.